

Opening Speech by
Yang Mulia Dayang Hajah Zainab Haji M.A. Omar
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At
BSJV Scholarship Contract Signing Ceremony 2020
Indera Samudra Grand Hall, The Empire Hotel & Country Club
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BISMILLAH HIRAHMAN NIRAHIM

**Alhamdulillah Rabbil 'Alamin, Wassalatu Wassalamu 'Ala Asyrafil Anbia I
Wal Mursalin, Wamaulana Muhammadin, Wa'ala Alihi Wassahbihi Ajmain,**

Asalamualaikum warrahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Good afternoon and Salam Sejahtera,

- **Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr Awang Haji Mat Suny bin Haji Md Hussein**, Minister of Energy, our Guest of Honour today,
- Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Matsatejo bin Sokiaw, Deputy Minister of Energy
- Yang Mulia Awang Haji Azhar Bin Haji Yahya, Permanent Secretary (Energy)
- Yang Mulia Pengiran Haji Jamra Weira Bin Pengiran Haji Petra, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Energy & Power)
- **Yang Mulia Agnete Johnsgaard-Lewis**, Shell Country Chair in Brunei also Managing Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum and
- **Yang Mulia Hajah Farida Dato Talib**, Managing Director, Brunei LNG,
- **Yang Mulia Muhammad Norshafiee Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Jalil**, Managing Director, Brunei Shell Marketing

Distinguished officers, guests, parents, students, ladies and gentlemen.

First and Foremost, on behalf of the Brunei Shell Joint Venture Companies, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Yang Berhormat Dato. Your presence is highly appreciated as it makes this occasion even more special for our scholars and guests today.

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is a great honour to welcome you to this afternoon's event. Today we are officially awarding 33 scholarships under the BSJV Scholarship scheme for 2020. We awarded our first scholarships 48 years ago and today, more than 700 BSJV scholarships have been awarded to outstanding students over the years. Congratulations and well done to the new scholars!

(Short Pause)

In Brunei Shell Petroleum (BSP), People and Country are one of our business priorities, which are also dear to my heart. This means on top of the oil and gas we produced, we also create additional value to benefit Bruneians and Brunei Darussalam as a nation. This is also about us carrying out our social and corporate responsibility to address national manpower challenges. This can be realised through job creations and direct employment to the BSJV companies.

We are committed to fulfil the aspirations of *Wawasan Brunei 2035*, one of which is to have an educated, highly skilled and accomplished population.

This is one of the reasons that we continue to contribute to the needs of our business in the energy industry, by growing and developing our local Bruneian talent funnel in diverse disciplines such as petroleum, mechanical, process engineering and environmental science, just to name a few.

Our People Strategy is aligned to the Bruneianisation Directive, and this prestigious scholarship is the first step for our scholars towards a truly enriching and progressive career path. Their learning and development will continue as they join the BSJV companies through world-class development opportunities, internationally accredited competency framework and on-the-job trainings. As part of our Bruneianisation agenda, potential leaders are identified as early as possible in their careers in order to support the individuals need and provide them with the right pace of career development in the BSJV companies.

Ladies and gentlemen, for the first time, we will award one scholar with the BSP Safety Scholarship, who will study Occupational Health and Safety Science at the University of Queensland, in Australia. This is aimed to produce highly skilled Safety Professional and to raise the bar of safety standards amongst Bruneians. This is in line with the Companies' deeply held value and Goal Zero vision which is causing **no harm to people and no leaks from our operations**.

In line with the Titah of His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda 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 Negara Brunei Darussalam, during the annual reception held with the Bruneians living in the United Kingdom and Ireland in December 2019, the country's development is dependent upon a strong manpower. They must be knowledgable and skilled (**berilmu dan berkemahiran**) as well as trustworthy, credible and visionary (**amanah, berwibawa dan berwawasan**). The Titah also reiterated students to embody these qualities and be proactive in developing themselves not only through enhancing their knowledge in educational institutions but also through informal

education such as partaking in co-curriculum activities and capacity development programmes.

I urge you to embrace the message of this Titah and carry it in your heart as Bruneians, as future leaders of the country; and seize the endless possibilities and opportunities for you to learn, grow and excel. Please take good care of yourself, life in universities either locally and abroad can be challenging, be resilient, persevere, InshaAllah you will succeed with flying colours. Remember you are not alone. We will always be here to guide & support you.

Alhamdulillah, with your hard work, passion and dedication, together we can achieve our commitment to continue to Fuel Brunei's Future and contribute to Brunei's economy.

Together, we can achieve Brunei Wawasan 2035. Together, we can make the future.

On that note, I would like to end with the kalimah,

Wabillahhi Taufik wal Hidayah, Wassalamu'alaikum Warahmatullahi wabarakatuh

Thank you.

END.