



E-NEWSLETTER

CONSULATE OF MALAYSIA, PONTIANAK



Mohiuddin Ghazali, Consul

Address : Jl. Perdana No. 001
Pontianak 78124, Kalimantan Barat
Republik Indonesia

Tel : +62 561 736061

Fax : +62 561 736060

Email : mwpontianak.kln@1govuc.gov.my

Website : www.kln.gov.my/web/idn_pontianak/home

“establishment of the Entikong land port is a boost in the right direction”

Entikong Land Port

A Much Needed Impetus For Trade



The much awaited launching of the Entikong Land Port by the Indonesian authorities, which is currently being scheduled on 15 December 2016, is expected to provide the much needed impetus in enhancing further bilateral trade between Malaysia and Indonesia particularly between the State of Sarawak and its neighbouring counterpart the Province of West Kalimantan.

There are three main trade routes between Sarawak and West Kalimantan situated along the 1900km shared border namely the Tebedu-Entikong, Lubok Antu-Nanga Badau and Sirikin-Jagoi Babang.

Both the Malaysian and Indonesian Government have identified the Tebedu-Entikong trade route for expansion and development as both sides have yet to establish an Immigration, Customs and Quarantine Post (ICQ) at Sirikin-Jagoi Ba-

bang, while Lubok Antu-Nanga Badau serves mainly for the trade of palm oil.

Since mid-2014, cross border trade at the Tebedu-Entikong has been badly affected by Indonesian new trade policies. Under Indonesia’s new trade regulations, the import of certain goods and household items from Malaysia across the border has since been barred.

The reason for the restriction was due to the status of the Entikong border post which has yet to obtain the status as an international trading port by the Indonesian Government.

Without the proper facilities to handle huge amounts of cargo, it was a concern of the Indonesian Government that illegal smuggling of goods or drugs would be rampant. Hence, only traditional trade were allowed

continue on page 2



Monitoring early developments on the upgrading of the Entikong border post which would also include a land port

under the Border Trade Agreement 1970 which permits border area residents of importing RM600 worth of goods per month.

For its part, Malaysia had already established the SM Inland Port in Tebedu since 1991 to serve the ever growing trading of goods from West Kalimantan.

Nonetheless, SM Inland Port suffered as a result of the restrictions, as trade plummeted from RM713 million in 2013 to only RM395 million in 2014. Until now, trade levels continue to record low levels in 2015 (RM305 million) and Jan-Sept 2016 (RM202 million).

With the coming launching of the Entikong land port, normal trade between Sarawak and West Kalimantan will resume providing the necessary boost for bilateral trade.

A return to 2013 trade volume would see a more than doubling of the trade figures. It is expected that the benefits would be considerably more.

Given that Malaysia and Indonesia, had set an ambitious target of achieving USD30 billion of bilateral trade, the establishment of the Entikong land port is a boost in the right direction in fulfilling this aim. ■



Discussions were held between the Malaysian Consulate and Indonesian border officials to discuss various cross-border issues affecting the two sides

Visit of Sarawak Manufacturer's Association to Pontianak **Entikong Land Port Excites Sarawak's Businesses**

On 10-12 October 2016, a delegation from the Sarawak Manufacturer's Association visited Pontianak for a working visit. The delegation was led by Mr. Nobel Pang, Managing Director of SM Inland Port, accompanied by a senior official from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry as well as 19 members of SMA from various sectors including food and beverages, construction, electrical and electronics and retailers.

The purpose of the visit was to enhance further the trade cooperation and relations between the private sectors



SMA delegation posed for a group photo at the Consulate of Malaysia, Pontianak

“there is great potential to expand further economic cooperation between the private sectors of West Kalimantan and Sarawak and not just limited to palm oil plantation”



of Sarawak and West Kalimantan in view of the upcoming launching of the Entikong land port scheduled on 15 December 2016. During the visit, the delegation paid a courtesy call on H.E. Christiandy, Deputy Governor of West Kalimantan and met with members of the Chamber of Commerce (KADIN) of West Kalimantan for business-matching.

The delegation also took the time to visit the Malaysian Consulate and held discussions with the Consul as well as other Home Based Staff on the various challenges and opportunities of doing business in West Kalimantan. It was agreed that there is great potential to expand further economic cooperation between the private sectors of West Kalimantan and Sarawak and not just limited to palm oil plantation.

Nonetheless, investment opportunities in West Kalimantan particularly in the manufacturing sector are limited due to the lack of infrastructure and other basic necessities such as electricity. Until there are improvements, investments in this field would be considered non-feasible for now. ■

SMA delegation sought advice on the do's and don'ts of conducting business in West Kalimantan

Malaysian Consulate Hands Over Contributions To Orphanage

Traditions Continue On Social Responsibility

On 23 August 2016, the Malaysian Consulate handed over contributions to Pesantren El Amani, a privately run orphanage that shelter not only orphans but children from poor families as well.

The orphanage which is situated in the City District of Pontianak has taken under its care 20 children. The orphanage is entirely managed by Ustaz Faiz, the founder, and together with his wife

continue on page 4

manages the day-to-day running of the orphanage. Remarkably, Ustaz Faiz, a small-time contractor finances the orphanage entirely on his own expense except when donations from the public are received.

The plight of the orphanage was made known to the Consulate by the Committee Members of Mujahadin Mosque, the largest mosque in Pontianak.

As part of the Consulate's regular social responsibility program to foster and maintain goodwill among the local community, it handed over various household items such as furniture, electrical appliances and foodstuff worth approximately RM10,000 to Pesantren El Amani. It is hoped that the contributions would at least ease some burden and make life more comfortable for them.



Ustaz Faiz and children of Pesantren El Amani were very grateful to the Government of Malaysia for the generous contributions

The handing over of the contributions was held during a simple ceremony attended by the staffs of the Consulate, municipal officials as well as members of the local community. ■