

Countries sign MoU on movement of prisoners

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PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia and Brunei have signed a memorandum of understanding on the movement of prisoners.

Sultan of Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah and Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday witnessed the signing of the agreement.

Home Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin inked the agreement on behalf of Malaysia and Brunei, was represented by its home affairs minister, Dato Seri Setia Dr Awang Abu Bakar Apong.

The agreement involved the transportation and escort of Sabah and Sarawak prisoners through Brunei and Bruneian prisoners through Sabah and Sarawak.

Present were Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali, Finance Minister Lim Guan Eng, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal and Sarawak

Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Abang Openg.

Earlier, the two leaders had a meeting deliberating on various issues of interest, which lasted for more than one hour.

Dr Mahathir and his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali, hosted a luncheon in honour of Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah during his visit to Seri Perdana here yesterday.

This year marked the first meeting between Dr Mahathir and Sultan Hassanal under the Annual Leaders' Consultation framework – the highest platform for discussion on a wide range of bilateral, regional and global issues of common concern.

The two leaders, it added, had exchanged visits in May and September last year, following the appointment of Dr Mahathir as Malaysia's seventh



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Sultan of Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah (back row, left) witnessing the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Brunei Home Affairs Minister Dato Seri Setia Dr Awang Abu Bakar Apong (seated, left) and Home Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

prime minister.

Wisma Putra said the special relationship between both countries were based on a common heritage and culture.

Malaysia is a major investor in Brunei, with foreign direct investments (FDIs) amounting to US\$486.74 million in 2017 or nearly 90.9 per cent of the total

FDI US\$535.27 million from Asean member states into Brunei. Trade between both countries stood at US\$981.2 million last year.