

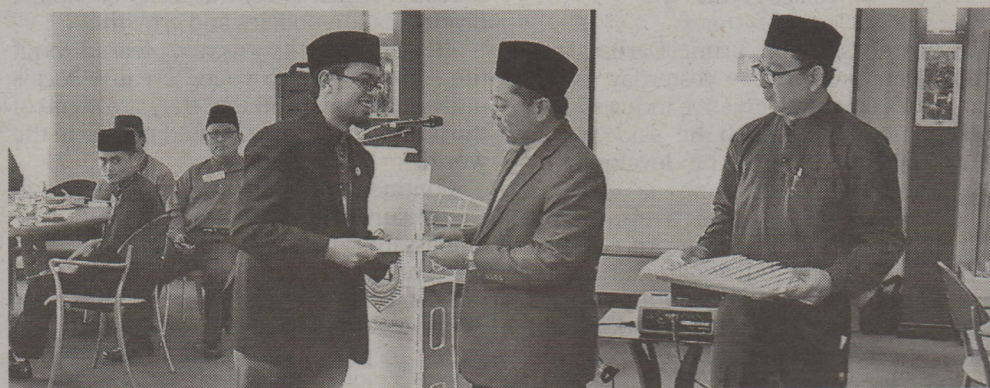
PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNISSA

The Rector of UNISSA, Dr Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, in a group photo with the newly appointed Student Council members

## UNISSA appoints new Student Council

THE Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) through its Students Affairs Unit and Student Council Representative recently appointed its new Student Council and also organised an appreciation ceremony for former council members of the 2014/2015 session, according to a press release.

Present as the event's chief guest was Dr Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, the Rector of UNISSA. Some 30 students received their letters of appointment with a 2<sup>nd</sup> Year student from the Islamic Civilisation and Arabic Language Faculty, Haji Muhammad Nur Alif bin Haji Talib, appointed as the Head of Students.



UNISSA Rector presenting letters of appointment to one of the selected students

## Worker charged with overstaying since 1997

| HAKIM HAYAT |

A 46-YEAR-OLD Indian man who has remained in the country illegally since 1997 was charged in the Bandar Seri Begawan Magistrate's Court yesterday.

The court heard from Deputy Public Prosecutor Yvonne Lim that the defendant, Nasir Rahmatullah, was arrested during a raid conducted by immigration enforcement officers at a business establishment in Kampong Sungai Lampai on September 15 this year.

He was later arrested for questioning after failing to provide valid travel documents. Further investigations revealed that there was no record the defendant entered Brunei but the defendant, in his statement, admitted entering the country from the Brunei International Airport sometime in 1997.

In the statement, he claimed that he arrived from Chennai, India, to Brunei via Singapore and was given a visit pass.

He was supposed to meet someone at the airport to pick him up but nobody showed up. He later claimed that a friend offered him a ride to Gadong and stayed in his rented room while he went to search for the person he was to meet at the airport in the first place.

With his search in vain, the defendant claimed that he took up several jobs in the country to support himself. He also claimed that he did try to report to the authorities several times over the last decade but he was unable to do so because he was threatened by a person who was supposed to assist him in processing his visa.

A first offender under the Immigration Act, the defendant faces imprisonment and strokes of the cane if he is found guilty under Section 6(3) (a) of the Immigration Act, Chapter 17. He is due for sentencing on Tuesday, September 22.

The presiding judge for the case yesterday was Magistrate Dewi Norlelawati binti Haji Abdul Hamid.

## Man charged with overstaying after a decade

A 41-YEAR-OLD Indian man was charged in the Bandar Seri Begawan Magistrate's Court yesterday for overstaying in the country for over a decade after the expiry of his immigration pass.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Yvonne Lim informed Magistrate Dewi Norlelawati binti Haji Abdul Hamid in court that Kunju Gnanasekaran's immigration pass expired on May 3, 2005, and he remained in Brunei until he was finally caught by immigration enforcement officers on September 15, 2015, acting on public tip-off.

The court heard that he was arrested in a rented room located in Kampong Bunut. He failed to produce a valid travel document and identified himself as 'Shaker' to the immigration officers.

He was later detained at the Central Police Station in the capital, and further

investigations from the immigration database revealed his real name and last date of his immigration pass validity. There were no further records of extensions after the expiry date of his immigration pass.

Gnanasekaran, who hails from Chennai, India, admitted in his statement that he never exited the country since the expiry date and also claimed that his passport was lost but he never reported it to authorities.

The defendant is found to have remained unlawfully in Brunei without a reasonable cause for a period of 3,786 days since the expiration date of his immigration pass.

A first offender under the Immigration Act, the defendant, if found guilty, may be sentenced to jail and strokes of the cane under Section 15(2) (b) of the Immigration Act, Chapter 17. The sentencing is set to be on September 22 this year. - **Hakim Hayat**

## Defendant sentenced to jail for unlawful entry

| HAKIM HAYAT |

A MALAYSIAN man, 32, previously barred from entering Brunei, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment and three strokes of the cane in the Bandar Seri Begawan Magistrate's Court yesterday, after being found guilty of unlawfully entering the country.

The defendant claimed that he had re-entered Brunei just to pay his girlfriend a visit.

Earlier, Deputy Public Prosecutor, Yvonne Lim informed the court that Erex Kaling had a prior theft conviction, for which he was sentenced and then deported.

The court was later informed that, acting on a public tip-off, a team of immigration enforcement officers arrested the defendant at a house in Kampong Kuala Balai, around 11.36am, on September 16.

Upon further investigations, he was found to have been deported on July 16, immediately after being released from prison for theft. The defendant then admitted that he had re-entered the country on foot - through the Sungai Tujoh Control Post - at around 7pm on July 16, without reporting for immigration clearance at the control post.

Magistrate Dewi Norlelawati binti Haji Abdul Hamid handed down the sentence in court yesterday.

## PKBN roadshow to be at four schools

THE Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports (MCYS) has informed that it will hold the National Service Programme (PKBN) roadshow five times, at four different schools, to expose youths to the programme, particularly for the upcoming fifth intake.

The programme will start tomorrow at the Rimba I Secondary School from 8.30-10am, with the focus on Year 11 students,

and again, on September 22, for the school's Year 10 students.

The PKBN roadshow will also centre on Year 9 and Year 10 students at the Lambak Kiri Secondary School from 9 to 10am on September 26, and on Year 10 students at the Berakas Secondary School on October 1. The roadshow will make a final visit to the Sultan Hassan Secondary School in Bangar, from 10am to 12pm, on October 3.