

SPECIAL EDITION

IndoConnect

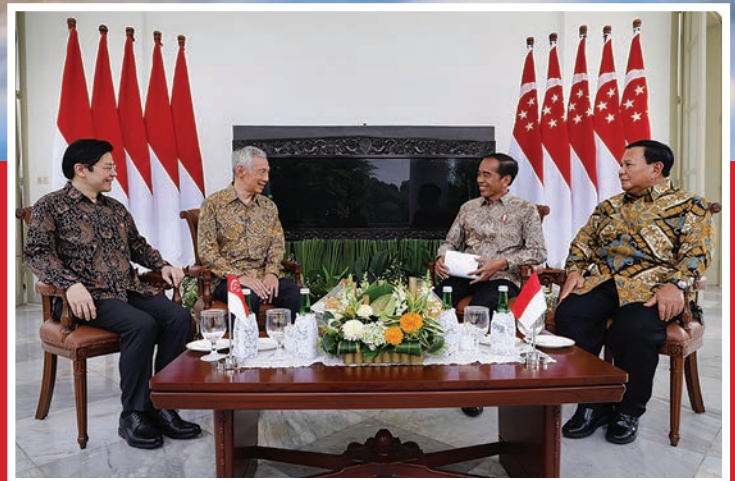
CONNECTING INDONESIANS IN SINGAPORE

The Mystical Beauty of Bromo



ALSO INSIDE:

- LEADERS' LAST RETREAT
- BRIDGING NATIONS - DIALOGUE WITH AMBASSADOR SURYO PRATOMO
- VISITING NUSANTARA
- THE BATIK RENAISSANCE



MOVING FORWARD FOR AN ADVANCED INDONESIA
HAPPY 79TH REPUBLIC INDONESIA INDEPENDENCE DAY!



ISSN 2345-7325





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Welcome to the special edition of Indoconnect!

As we embark on this new edition of IndoConnect, we are filled with optimism and anticipation for what lies ahead. This issue is particularly significant as we witness a dynamic shift in leadership within Indonesia and the promise of enhanced collaboration with Singapore.

With President-elect Prabowo Subianto poised to take the helm, we delve into the strategic priorities that will shape Indonesia's future and the opportunities for stronger bilateral ties with Singapore. Our cover story focuses on the recent visit of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCCI) to Jakarta, which underscores the robust economic partnerships between our nations.

We are also thrilled to bring you exclusive interviews with key figures, including H.E. Suryo Pratomo, who shares insights on Indonesia-Singapore relations, and a peek into the 'BackStory' of the challenges faced by Igak Satrya Wibawa, the Indonesian Embassy's Education and Cultural Attache and another on young diplomat Rizki Kusumastuti, who reflects on her journey of service and dedication. These stories highlight the personal and professional connections that continue to bridge our communities.

In this edition, we also celebrate Indonesia's cultural richness and burgeoning tourism industry. From the pristine beauty of Lake Toba, host to the thrilling FI Powerboat Race, to the artistic renaissance of batik, we explore the diverse facets of Indonesian identity that captivate the world.

We extend our gratitude to all contributors and partners who make this publication possible, and we invite you to join us in exploring the vibrant tapestry of Indonesia's past, present, and future.

Nomita Dhar

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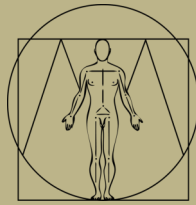
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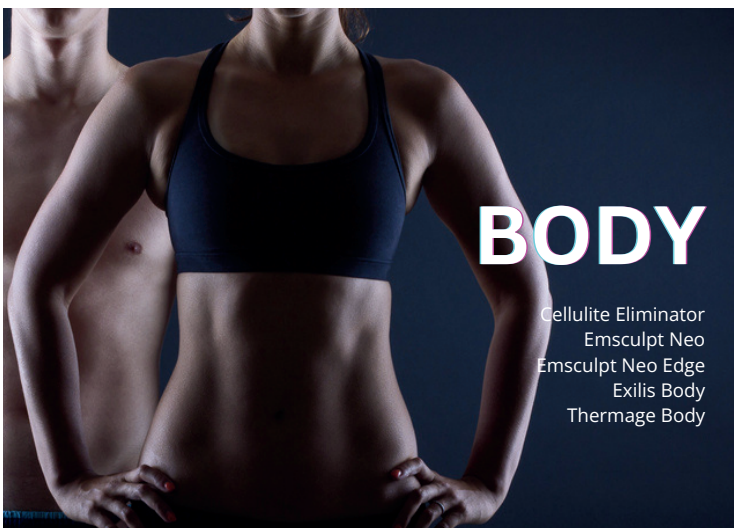
FACE

Botox
Dermal Fillers
Emface
Exilis Face
Face Peels
Ha Hydrating Facial
HIFU
Laser Skin Treatment
Microdermabrasion
Profilo
Rejuran
Skin Tag Removal
Stemcell Facial
Thermage
Transdermal Anti-Ageing Facial



BODY

Cellulite Eliminator
Emsculpt Neo
Emsculpt Neo Edge
Exilis Body
Thermage Body



CONTENTS



EDITOR'S NOTE

01 Indonesia - Singapore Ties Grow Closer

COVER STORY

04 Nusantara Visit

FEATURE

06 Last Leaders' Retreat Sets the Stage for
Continued Cooperation

INTERVIEW

08 Bridging Nations: A Dialogue with H.E. Suryo Pratomo on
Indonesia- Singapore Relations

FEATURE

12 Visits by President-Elect Prabowo Subianto

BACKSTORY

14 Young Diplomat Rizki Kusumastuti
Serving Indonesia and Family with Love

15 Young Diplomat Rizki Kusumastuti
Serving Indonesia and Family with Love

HEALTH

16 Indonesian Health Delegation Visits
Singapore

17 Medical Tourism:
Collaboration with SingHealth to Boost
Bali International Hospital

ECONOMY

18 Makassar New Port: Eastern Indonesia's Gateway to the World;
Development of Port Dumai and Port Selat Lampa

19 BRIN: Ambon City Key Site for Blue Economy R&D;
Indonesian ATR Minister Discusses Agrarian Reform
Cooperation with World

20 Soesatyo Invites Singapore to Invest in New Capital City;
Indonesia's Green Steel Initiatives at SGSF

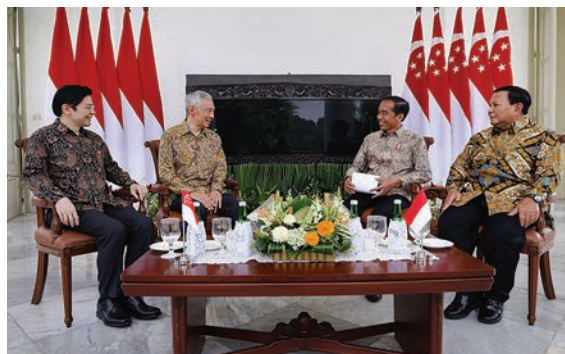
21 Indonesian Air Force Chief Holds Bilateral Meetings;
Indonesia Update for Corporate Chiefs

EVENTS

22 Indonesia Showcases Tourism Gems at NATAS Travel Fair
2024; Indonesian Food & Music at GastroBeats 2024

23 Indonesia-Singapore Business Forum 2024 Highlights
Economic Policies Post-Election

24 Indonesian Sustainable Fashion Makes a Splash with 'Indonesia
in SG' Exhibition



- 25 Indonesia's Vision for Water: Investment Opportunities
- 26 Lake Toba F1 Powerboat Race Attracts 70,000 Spectators

PROPERTY

- 27 New Indonesian Property Rules Welcome Foreign Investors

FASHION

- 28 Indonesian Batik Renaissance is Going Global

TOURISM

- 30 Discovering the Mystical Beauty of Bromo: A Journey Through East Java
- 32 Indulge in Culinary Delights: A



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Nusantara Visit: Catalyzing Economic Collaboration between Singapore and Indonesia

Forging New Partnerships: SCCCI's Strategic Mission to Jakarta Explores Opportunities in Indonesia's Emerging Markets



(Top, from left): Ibu Yenny, Mr Edwin Tong and Ambassador Suryo Pratomo. (Above): Massive turnout for the anniversary celebrations

The Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCCI) embarked on a strategic business mission to Jakarta, led by its President, Mr. Kho Choon Keng, from July 14-17, 2024. This visit, organized by the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore (KBRI), aimed to bolster economic cooperation and explore investment opportunities between Singaporean and Indonesian enterprises. The delegation's engagement with key Indonesian institutions marked a significant step towards fostering long-term partnerships and unlocking potential business prospects in Indonesia's emerging markets.

Exploring Indonesia's Economic Landscape and Future Opportunities

During the visit, the SCCCI delegation



participated in a series of high-level meetings and discussions with pivotal Indonesian entities, including the Ministry of Investment (BKPM), the Nusantara Capital Authority, the Jakarta Investment Center (JIC), InJourney Indonesia, KADIN (Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry), and PERPIT (Indonesian Chinese Entrepreneur Association). These interactions provided valuable insights into Indonesia's economic landscape and highlighted the promising opportunities arising from the development of Nusantara, the country's new capital city.

The discussions also focused on Indonesia's ambitious 2045 Golden Vision, which outlines a comprehensive plan for sustainable economic growth and development. The delegation learned



about the attractive investment incentives offered by Indonesia, particularly in emerging sectors such as digital technology, infrastructure, and sustainable energy. These initiatives align closely with Singapore's strategic interests, paving the way for increased collaboration and mutual benefit.

Acknowledging Support and Looking Ahead

According to a spokesperson from the SCCCI, "The success of this business mission would not have been possible without the unwavering support and guidance of His Excellency Mr. Suryo Pratomo, Ambassador of Indonesia to



Singapore. His personal involvement throughout the mission, along with the support of KBRI Singapore, BKPM, and IIPC Singapore, played a crucial role in facilitating fruitful exchanges and creating a conducive environment for dialogue."

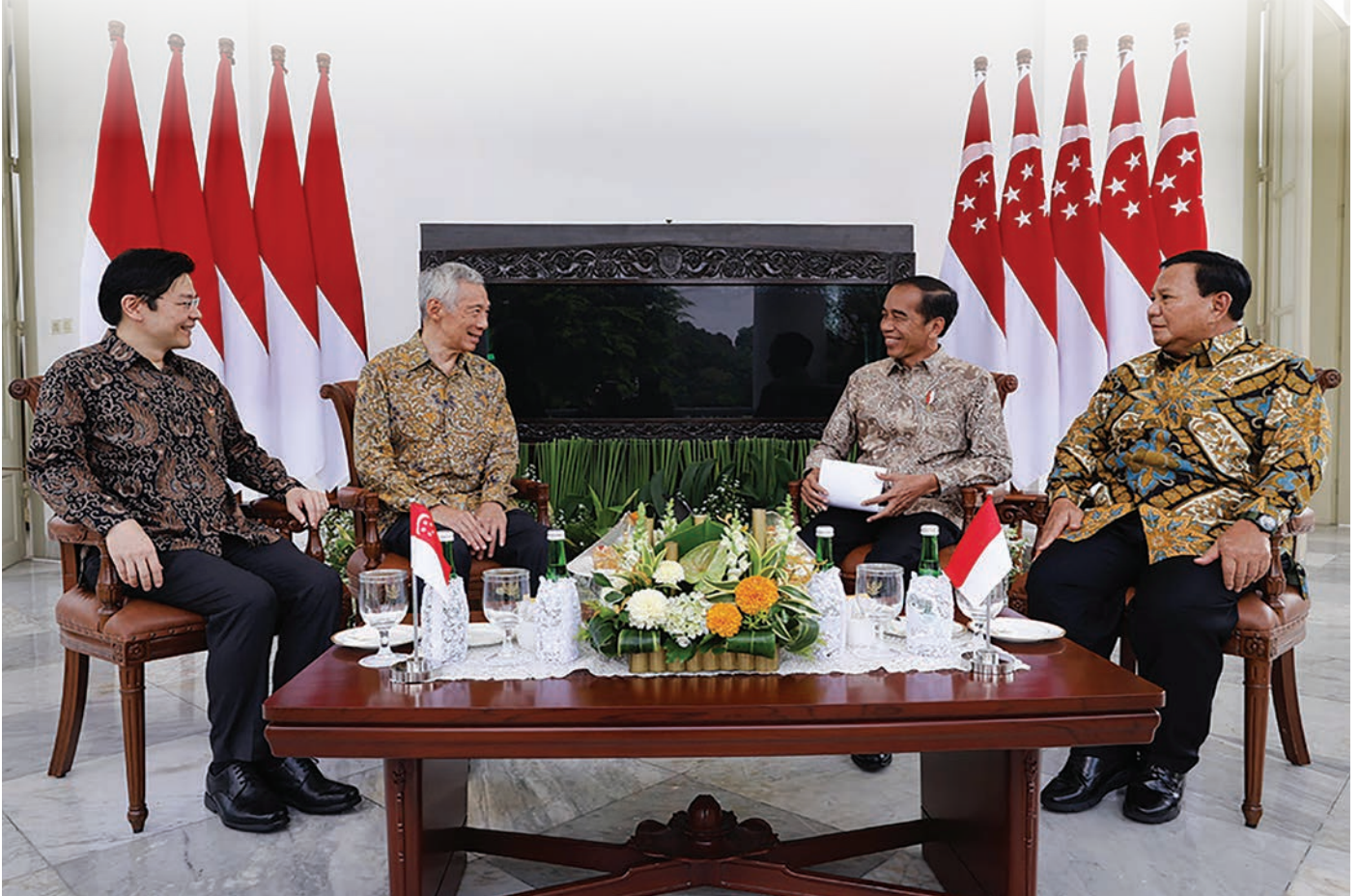
The Singapore Chinese Chamber also stated that following the SCCCI delegation's return to Singapore, members have been eager to build on the connections established during the visit and explore the myriad opportunities that have been unveiled. The SCCCI said the mission was a significant milestone in the ongoing efforts to deepen economic ties between Singapore and Indonesia that promised a future of collaborative growth and shared prosperity.

The sentiments were also shared by the Chambers' members as many felt that the Nusantara Visit has set the stage for a new chapter in Singapore-Indonesia economic relations; both nations continue to explore avenues for cooperation, the potential for innovative partnerships and investments remains vast. By harnessing the strengths of each country and leveraging the synergies between them, businesses can look forward to a dynamic and prosperous future together.



Last Leaders' Retreat Sets the Stage for Continued Cooperation

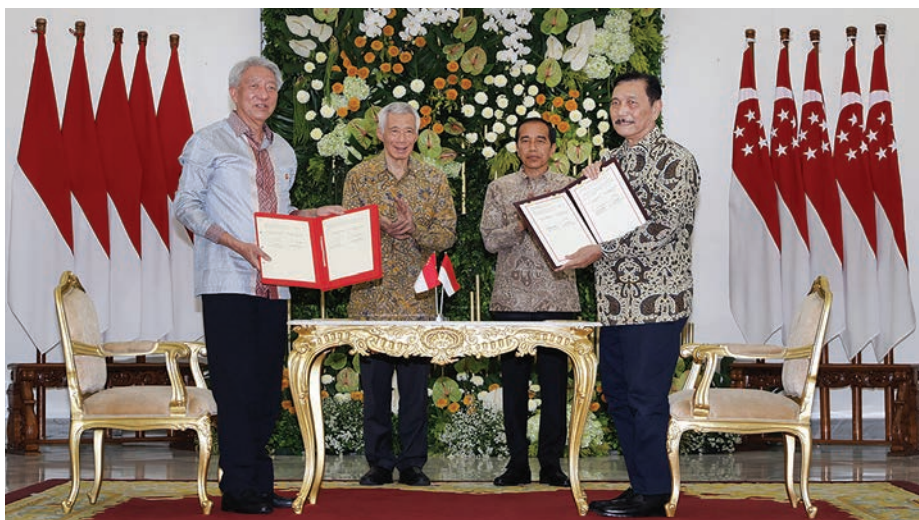
The Seventh Leaders' Retreat between then Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and outgoing President Jokowi focussed on strengthening the already strong bilateral economic cooperation and strategic partnership established by the two leaders



Although this was the final Leaders' Retreat for PM Lee and President Jokowi there was still a strong sense of continuity very much in the air as the Indonesian President together with Defence Minister and President-Elect Prabowo Subianto, welcomed then Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and his successor then Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong at the Bogor Palace on 29th April 2024.

Both groups of outgoing and future leaders worked on a mission to reinforce the longstanding relationship between the two nations, focusing on shared interests and collaborative ventures. Key discussions included the Flight Information Region (FIR) in the Riau Islands and Natuna, the 2022 Extradition Agreement, the 2007 Defence Cooperation Pact, and the 2014 Agreement on Territorial Sea Boundaries. The leaders also explored ways to enhance cooperation in investment and trade.





On the Agenda

In the run up to the Seventh Leaders' Retreat Indonesia's Minister of Coordinating Economic Affairs, Airlangga Hartarto, met with Singaporean Foreign Minister Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan in Jakarta on 23rd April 2024 to discuss preparations for the upcoming Retreat

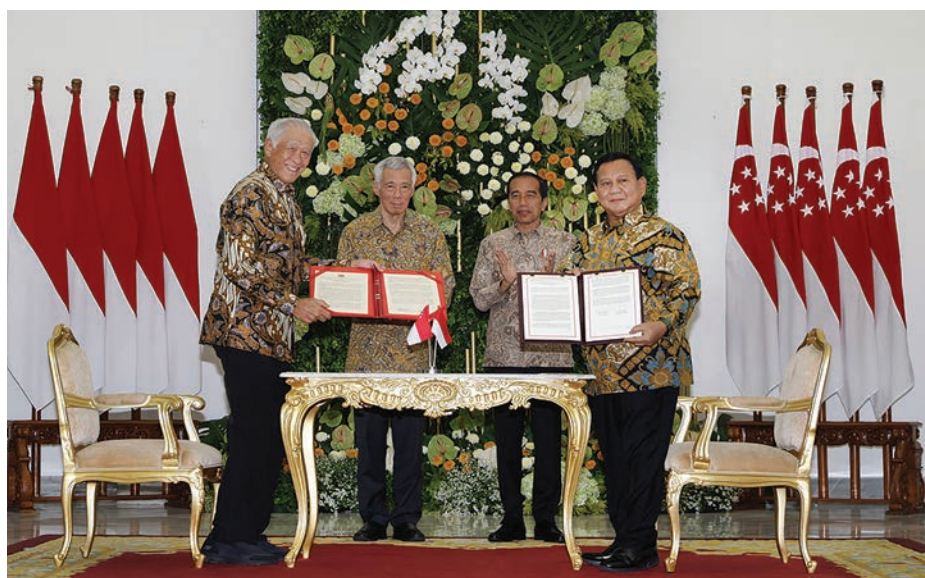
The ministers highlighted strong economic relations between Indonesia and Singapore and explored potential areas of bilateral cooperation, that included:

- Green energy initiatives such as solar farms and carbon capture storage
- Development of the Batam-Bintan-Karimun area, digital connectivity, and data centres. Minister Airlangga also emphasised the importance of building data centers around the Indonesian Capital City, also known as Ibu Kota Nusantara (IKN), to support its modern and digital pursuits concept.

The Retreat also addressed hospital investment in health care within the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for Health in Sanur, Bali. Head of the Ministry of

Health Communication and Public Service Bureau, noted that agreements were finalised to establish 16 healthcare service centres and clinics, including international providers such as Mayo Clinic and aesthetic clinics from South Korea. Discussions included strengthening biomedical research and genome sequencing, supported by Singapore's Temasek Foundation through training and scholarships.

These meetings and agreements highlight the commitment of Indonesia and Singapore to deepen their bilateral relations and drive regional economic growth and stability. The Leaders' Retreat emphasised strategic cooperation in various sectors, including human resource development, healthcare, and green energy, underscoring the importance of fostering strong and mutually beneficial partnerships between the two nations.



Bridging Nations:

A Dialogue with H.E. Suryo Pratomo

on Indonesia–Singapore Relations



As Indonesia marks its 79th National Day, the country stands at a pivotal point of growth and development in Southeast Asia. H.E. Suryo Pratomo, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Singapore, offers invaluable insights into the dynamic relationship between Indonesia and Singapore. In this exclusive interview, Ambassador Pratomo discusses the burgeoning investment climate, the importance of the Indonesian diaspora, and collaborative efforts in education, technology, and sustainability.

In celebration of Indonesia's 79th National Day, we had the privilege of speaking with H.E. Suryo Pratomo, the Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Singapore. This in-depth interview offers a glimpse into the thriving relationship between Indonesia and Singapore, highlighting key areas such as economic growth, investment opportunities, and the pivotal role of the Indonesian diaspora. Ambassador Pratomo also sheds light on the collaborative efforts in education and technology, sustainable development initiatives, and the importance of cultural exchange. Join us as we explore the insights and perspectives of Ambassador Pratomo on the dynamic and multifaceted partnership between Indonesia and Singapore.

Indonesia is experiencing significant economic growth. How has the investment climate evolved, particularly with Singapore?

Indonesia's economic growth has been robust, and the investment climate is improving steadily. In the first quarter of 2024 alone, investments from Singapore to Indonesia reached USD 5.2 billion, reflecting the strong economic ties between our nations. Singapore has consistently been our largest investor over the past seven years. This growth is a testament to the mutual benefits of our partnership and the efforts to foster a conducive investment environment through regular updates and engagement with Singaporean investors.

How do you view the role of the Indonesian diaspora in Singapore?



The Indonesian diaspora in Singapore, numbering over 250,000, plays a crucial role in strengthening our bilateral relations. We engage with them regularly, fostering a sense of belonging and encouraging them to act as ambassadors of Indonesia. The embassy serves as a home away from home, providing a space for cultural exchange and community-building. Education and professional development for young Indonesians in Singapore are also key areas of focus, ensuring they contribute positively to both countries.

What initiatives are in place to enhance educational and technological collaborations between Indonesia and Singapore?

Education and technology are pivotal in our collaboration. Recent agreements between universities in both countries facilitate student exchanges and joint research initiatives, especially in sustainability and digital economy sectors. We are also working on joint projects in artificial intelligence and government technology, which hold significant

potential for growth. These partnerships aim to foster innovation and address global challenges collaboratively.

Can you elaborate on Indonesia's commitment to sustainable development and its long-term goals?

Indonesia is committed to building a green and sustainable economy. Our long-term program aims to establish a new capital that symbolizes the new Indonesia—a model of sustainability and environmental consciousness. This initiative aligns with global efforts to reduce emissions and promote sustainable practices. We believe that by focusing on sustainability, we can ensure a better future for our citizens and contribute positively to global environmental goals.

Tourism is a significant aspect of Indonesia's appeal. What destinations do you recommend for Singaporean tourists?

While Bali is always a popular choice, I encourage Singaporeans to explore other beautiful destinations such as the Riau Islands and Lake Toba. These areas offer unique experiences and showcase Indonesia's diverse landscape. The natural beauty and cultural richness of these



regions provide an excellent opportunity for Singaporeans to discover more about our country beyond the well-known tourist spots.

How are Indonesia and Singapore addressing global political challenges together?

Indonesia and Singapore share a commitment to peace and humanitarian aid. We have collaborated on efforts in

regions like Gaza and Ukraine and have participated in peacekeeping missions. Our shared vision for a peaceful and prosperous future drives these initiatives. For instance, in Gaza, both countries have sent humanitarian aid, and in Ukraine, we continue to call for peace and support efforts to resolve the conflict. This collaboration demonstrates our dedication to upholding peace and stability globally.

What message do you have for Indonesians and Singaporeans on this National Day?

On this 79th National Day of Indonesia, I extend my heartfelt wishes to all Indonesians and Singaporeans. Our relationship is akin to that of a family, built on mutual respect and collaboration. As we continue to grow and face new challenges, our partnership will remain a cornerstone of our success. I am optimistic about our future and confident that together, we can

achieve great things for our people and our region.

How do you perceive the future of Indonesia-Singapore relations in the coming years?

The future of Indonesia-Singapore relations is incredibly bright. Our relationship is built on a solid foundation of trust, mutual respect, and shared goals.



As we navigate the complexities of the global landscape, our collaborative efforts in economic growth, education, technology, and sustainability will continue to thrive. We aim to further deepen our ties, explore new areas of cooperation, and enhance the quality of life for our people. Both nations are committed to building a prosperous and harmonious future, and I am confident that our partnership will serve as a model for regional cooperation.

What specific initiatives are being taken to promote sustainability in Indonesia, and how can Singapore contribute to these efforts?

Indonesia is taking significant steps to promote sustainability. Our long-term goal is to build a new capital that embodies our commitment to a green and sustainable future. We are focusing on reducing emissions, promoting renewable energy, and implementing sustainable practices across various sectors.

Singapore can contribute to these efforts through knowledge sharing, joint research projects, and investments in green technologies. By working together, we can develop innovative solutions that address environmental challenges and promote sustainable development in both our countries.



How do you see the role of cultural exchange in strengthening the bond between Indonesia and Singapore?

Cultural exchange plays a vital role in strengthening the bond between our nations. It fosters mutual understanding, respect, and appreciation for each other's heritage and traditions. Through cultural events, educational exchanges, and community activities, we can bridge gaps and build lasting connections. The Indonesian diaspora in Singapore serves

as a cultural ambassador, showcasing our rich traditions and fostering a deeper connection between our peoples. Continued efforts in promoting cultural exchange will further enhance our relationship and create a vibrant, diverse community.

What advice would you give to Indonesian businesses looking to expand into Singapore and vice versa?

For Indonesian businesses looking



to expand into Singapore, I advise understanding the local market dynamics, regulatory environment, and consumer preferences. Building strong relationships with local partners and leveraging the support of trade organizations can be crucial for success. Similarly, Singaporean businesses entering Indonesia should familiarize themselves with our diverse market, regulatory landscape, and cultural nuances. There are abundant opportunities in various sectors, and by fostering collaboration and understanding, businesses from both countries can thrive and contribute to mutual economic growth.

How does the embassy plan to continue supporting Indonesian students and professionals in Singapore?

The embassy is committed to supporting Indonesian students and professionals in Singapore. We provide various resources, including networking opportunities, professional development programs, and cultural events. Our aim is to create a supportive community where Indonesians feel at home and can thrive both academically and professionally. We will continue to engage with student



associations, professional groups, and the broader Indonesian community to ensure their needs are met and to foster a sense of belonging and pride in their heritage.

As Indonesia celebrates its 79th National Day, the reflections of Ambassador Suryo Pratomo highlight the robust and dynamic relationship between Indonesia and Singapore. Through economic collaboration, educational partnerships, cultural exchanges, and a shared commitment to sustainability, the future of Indonesia-Singapore relations looks promising. Both nations are poised to continue building a prosperous, harmonious, and sustainable future together, setting an example of regional cooperation and mutual growth.



President-elect Prabowo Subianto's Visit to Singapore: A New Era of Regional Cooperation and Peace

During his recent visit to Singapore, Indonesian President-elect and current Defence Minister Prabowo Subianto delivered a compelling message on international cooperation and regional stability. His engagements underscored the importance of ASEAN unity and Indonesia's commitment to diplomatic solutions in global conflicts, marking a significant step in strengthening ties between Indonesia and Singapore



President-elect Prabowo Subianto's visit to Singapore from May 31 to June 2, 2024, marked a significant moment in Indonesia's diplomatic endeavors on the international stage. During his visit, Prabowo delivered a Special Address at the 21st Shangri-La Dialogue, organized by the International Institute for Strategic Studies, which drew attention to Indonesia's evolving role in global affairs. He also met with Singapore's Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Lawrence Wong, where the leaders reaffirmed the strong bilateral ties between their countries and discussed advancements in key areas such as renewable energy and sustainability. These meetings emphasized the importance of continued cooperation among ASEAN countries in addressing shared regional and international challenges.

The Shangri-La Dialogue, held annually, serves as a crucial platform for



Prabowo's advocacy for diplomatic dialogue as a means to achieve lasting peace is a testament to Indonesia's foreign policy, which prioritizes peaceful conflict resolution and multilateral cooperation. This approach aligns with Indonesia's long-standing tradition of promoting dialogue and negotiation in international relations...

Prabowo's initiatives reflect Indonesia's dedication to promoting peace and stability not only in the Middle East but also in the broader international arena. His message at the Shangri-La Dialogue resonated with the need for collective action and ASEAN solidarity in navigating a complex and interconnected global landscape. By emphasizing ASEAN's role in fostering regional cooperation, Prabowo highlighted the potential of Southeast Asian nations to collectively address global challenges and contribute to international peace efforts.

The visit also highlighted Indonesia's pivotal role in fostering regional cooperation and advocating for peaceful solutions to global conflicts. As the largest country in Southeast Asia, Indonesia's leadership is crucial in shaping the region's approach to security and cooperation. By engaging with regional partners and advocating for peaceful solutions, Indonesia is positioning itself as a key player in the global effort to address pressing security issues and promote sustainable development.

In conclusion, President-elect Prabowo Subianto's visit to Singapore and his address at the Shangri-La Dialogue underscore Indonesia's commitment to promoting peace and stability through diplomatic means. His focus on dialogue, cooperation, and humanitarian assistance reflects Indonesia's dedication to addressing global challenges in a manner that prioritizes peace and development. As ASEAN and the broader international community continue to navigate complex security dynamics, Indonesia's leadership and advocacy for peaceful solutions will be instrumental in shaping a more stable and prosperous future for the region and the world.

defense ministers, military chiefs, and policymakers from around the world to engage in dialogue on pressing security issues. Prabowo's participation underscored Indonesia's commitment to playing an active role in promoting peace and stability in the region. In his address, Prabowo, who also serves as Indonesia's Defense Minister, outlined Indonesia's vision for resolving global security issues through diplomatic means. He placed particular emphasis on the conflicts in Palestine and Ukraine, two regions that have been mired in conflict and instability, calling for national unity and open communication in tackling these challenges.

Prabowo's advocacy for diplomatic dialogue as a means to achieve lasting peace is a testament to Indonesia's foreign policy, which prioritizes peaceful conflict resolution and multilateral cooperation. This approach aligns with Indonesia's long-standing tradition of promoting dialogue and negotiation in international relations, as seen in its previous contributions

to peacekeeping missions and conflict mediation efforts around the world.

Tangible Assistance

During his address, Prabowo specifically addressed the recent tragic events in Rafah, a region that has been heavily affected by the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine. He urged a comprehensive investigation into the humanitarian crisis and emphasized the importance of preventing future incidents. His call for an investigation highlights Indonesia's concern for the humanitarian aspect of conflicts and its commitment to ensuring accountability and justice. Prabowo also reaffirmed Indonesia's commitment to supporting ceasefire efforts and announced the country's readiness to provide humanitarian aid. This includes the deployment of peacekeeping forces and the establishment of field hospitals in Gaza, demonstrating Indonesia's proactive stance in offering tangible assistance to those in need.

Interview **Mr. IGAK Satria Wibawa** Enhancing Educational and Cultural Ties between Singapore and Indonesia

Mr. Igak Satria Wibawa, education and culture attaché, discusses his role in strengthening the educational and cultural collaboration between Singapore and Indonesia

In this exclusive interview with Sun Media, Mr. IGAK Satria Wibawa, the Education and Culture Attaché at the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore, shared insights into his role and the ongoing efforts to strengthen educational and cultural ties between Singapore and Indonesia.

We want to know more about you, your department, and the collaboration between Singapore and Indonesia. You have been here for almost two years now. How have you settled in Singapore?

I joined about two years ago, and my family is here with me. My wife and two daughters are studying in Singapore. The first one is in primary school and will soon be in high school. We came from Bali, which is a special place for us.

Tell us about your career path and your role in the embassy.

I was a lecturer at a public university in Indonesia, teaching and working on various projects. When this position opened in 2021, I saw it as an opportunity to face new challenges and explore new opportunities. Here in Singapore, I lead several programs to enhance collaboration between our two countries.

What are your thoughts on the education system in Indonesia, and how do you see collaboration with Singapore?

Under the leadership of our Minister, we promote innovative and motivating educational practices. Our goal is to tailor education to different contexts, like those in Jakarta and Papua. We emphasize project-based learning and encourage students to explore and enjoy the learning process. Singapore's education system serves as a benchmark for us, and we aim to learn from their experiences while considering our cultural context.

How are job opportunities for students back in Indonesia?

The job market is evolving rapidly, and



it's essential to provide students with a solid foundation of knowledge and skills to prepare for future opportunities. The government is working to ensure that education is accessible and free, especially in state schools. We face challenges due to our diverse geography, but we strive to provide the necessary resources and support.

Could you update us on the recent visit of your minister and its significance?

In 2021, we agreed to enhance our efforts in various programs, including student exchanges and research collaborations. We've opened a research center facilitated by NUS, and we are working on more initiatives to strengthen our educational ties.

How do you engage with the Indonesian student community in Singapore?

We have around 8,000 to 10,000 Indonesian students in Singapore, from primary school to post-doctoral studies. Singapore offers a conducive environment for our students, with its strong education system and cultural similarities. Many students seek job opportunities in Singapore after graduation, but we also encourage them to return to Indonesia and contribute to our development.

What are some of your cultural initiatives in Singapore?

We support various cultural programs and collaborations with local art schools. We have upcoming events and performances planned to promote Indonesian culture in Singapore. Our embassy maintains an open and friendly environment, welcoming everyone as friends rather than guests.

You have a significant role in education and culture. How do you manage it all?

It's not just a job; it's something I love. Connecting with people and promoting our culture is a passion of mine. The embassy operates on the principle that everyone who visits is a friend, and we strive to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

What changes do you anticipate with the new government in Indonesia?

The new government will continue building on our current foundation. We may revise some aspects to better align with global trends, but the core principles will remain the same. We are also looking at potential collaborations with foreign universities, including those from Singapore, to further enhance our education system.

For full interview visit
www.indoconnectsingapore.com

Interview Rizki Kusumastuti

Young Diplomat Rizki Kusumastuti

Serving Indonesia and Family with Love

Through Backstory, we bring you stories of people, the paths they take, and the destinations they arrive at. IndoConnect spoke to Indonesian diplomat Rizki Kusumastuti, the First Secretary at the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore, Pensobud – Information, Social and Cultural Affairs Department. She shared her story of a childhood dream to work outside Indonesia, which has become a way for her to serve her country

Rizki Kusumastuti, First Secretary at the Republic of Indonesia Embassy in Singapore (Pensobud) was born and raised in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia. She grew up with the childhood dream to work and live abroad, not knowing what was the career path that could become a gateway to achieving her dreams of working and living abroad. During her time to choose a study programme to apply to a university, she was clueless about what to pursue. She attended several alumni talks which gave her a 'Eureka' moment to study International Law. Not knowing then that it would be the first step towards achieving her childhood dream. It was by accident that she came to know about CPNS (Calon Pegawai Negeri Sipil) the test which qualified one to get into government service. While working in the private sector she took the exam; as luck would have it, she cleared all the steps and landed a job in the foreign service.



Diplomatic Journey

Rizki's entry into the foreign services in 2009 marked the beginning of an enriching journey. Her first posting in Finland presented a stark contrast to Indonesia's warm climate, introducing her to a different climatic conditions and way of life. Her husband, who she lauds for "dependability and commitment" was willing to be a trailing spouse, but he was in ascendant in his career path, and Rizki thought it would be unfair for him to leave Indonesia at that point. She along with their two children arrived in Finland to promote and represent the interests of Indonesia; she got a lot of support from her parents and sister. The two young boys Wisanggeni Anwar and Antasena Anwar, were with her in Finland in the early years of their childhood. Rizki navigated the complexities of balancing a demanding career with family responsibilities, emphasising the importance of shared responsibilities in marriage. Her husband, Anwar Sadat, is now with her in Singapore



as a trailing spouse. She says her husband is very understanding and hopes more men would be able to step in for their wives if the career so demands. Rizki's story underscores the societal need for equal participation in parenting responsibilities, especially for women pursuing demanding careers.

She likes Singapore for its cleanliness and safety and while promoting ties between Singapore and Indonesia she has the ease of bringing up her children with the support of her husband. "I like how my childhood dream of living abroad has created opportunities for my family. I am proud to represent Indonesia in Singapore. I want to invite Singaporeans to explore our rich and vast and beautiful country. Singaporeans should look beyond Bali. While we are very proud of the contribution of domestic workers Singapore companies can explore the large talent pool of young Indonesians, for investors, the policies have been further simplified and streamlined. Come work with us."

Indonesian Health Delegation Visits Singapore

The two-day working visit, meticulously organized by the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore from 3rd to 4th January 2024, brought together a high-profile delegation led by Dr. Rizka Andalucia, the Director-General of Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices from the Ministry of Health, Republic of Indonesia



This diplomatic initiative aimed to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange between Indonesia and Singapore in the crucial realm of healthcare. Accompanying Director-General Dr Rizka Andalucia were members of the Indonesian Pharmacists Association (IAI), underscoring the inclusive nature of the discussions that unfolded during the visit.

The focal point of the visit was the insightful and detailed discussions that took place between the Indonesian delegation and Dr. Camilla Wong, the Chief Pharmacist Office of the Ministry of Health in Singapore. The deliberations covered a wide array of pharmaceutical and health topics, ranging from the development in pharmacy, specialists and advanced pharmacists as well as access to innovative medicines in Singapore. The engagement aimed not only to enhance mutual understanding but also to identify potential areas for technical collaboration that could benefit both nations in the field of pharmaceuticals. The exchange of expertise and perspectives laid the foundation for a more robust and cooperative approach to addressing healthcare challenges.

In addition to the meetings, the delegation seized the opportunity to conduct a site visit to the pharmacy services at the National Cancer Center in Singapore. This hands-on experience provided invaluable insights into

Singapore's healthcare infrastructure, specifically in the context of cancer treatment and pharmaceutical services. Observing these services in action allowed the Indonesian delegation to gain a deeper understanding of best practices and innovative approaches that could be adapted or implemented in their home country.

The collaborative spirit of the visit not only extended to the exchange of knowledge but also sought to establish lasting connections between professionals in the pharmaceutical sector of both countries. The engagement facilitated networking opportunities and laid the groundwork for potential future partnerships. As a result, the visit served as a catalyst for enhanced bilateral ties, promoting cooperation in research, development, and the implementation of regulatory frameworks within the pharmaceutical industry.

In conclusion, the two-day working visit orchestrated by the Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore not only served as a platform for meaningful discussions between high-ranking officials but also contributed to the broader goal of strengthening the ties between Indonesia and Singapore in the critical domain of healthcare. The shared commitment to advancing pharmaceutical practices and addressing common healthcare challenges creates a promising outlook for future collaborations that will benefit the health and well-being of both nations.

Medical Tourism: Collaboration with SingHealth to Boost **Bali International Hospital**

Pertamina's BUMN Hospital Holding partners with Singapore's SingHealth to enhance Bali International Hospital, aiming to elevate it into a medical tourism destination



The state-owned hospital holding company PT Pertamina Bina Medika-Indonesia Healthcare Corporation (IHC) has teamed up with Singaporean healthcare institution, SingHealth, through a collaboration aimed at enhancing healthcare services to strengthen Bali International Hospital (BIH) as a medical tourism destination.

“Bali International Hospital is still under construction, and our plan is to open in September 2024,” stated IHC’s President Director, Dr. Mira Dyah Wahyuni, in Sanur, Denpasar, Bali, on Tuesday, 30th April 2024.

To facilitate this, IHC signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with SingHealth, represented by Dr. Mira Dyah Wahyuni alongside SingHealth’s Group CEO, Ng Wai Hoe, it was witnessed by Singapore’s Minister of Health, Ong Ye Kung, in the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) of Sanur, Denpasar, Bali. The MoU outlines cross-sharing of clinical practices, innovations, and training to enhance the quality of healthcare services in both countries.

Through this partnership, IHC will gain access to knowledge and expertise in healthcare services from Singapore, particularly in hospital management, staff training, as well as research and development, which includes professional competency.

Three priority areas are emphasised: focusing on quality, patient safety, and research; enhancing customer experience through innovation and transformation; and sustainable development of healthcare professionals, including doctors, nurses, and management.

SingHealth’s Group CEO, Ng Wai Hoe, views this collaboration as a significant potential for both entities to enhance healthcare services and training for professionals, including doctors, nurses, and healthcare administration.

Specialisations

Regarding BIH services, the President Director of IHC explained that the hospital specialises in cancer care, particularly with positron emission tomography (PET) scanning for advanced cancer therapy, a

service currently available in only three medical facilities, all centralised in Jakarta.

Covering approximately five hectares of the total 41.26-hectare SEZ for Health in Sanur, BIH also provides treatment for other diseases related to cardiology, oncology, neurology/stroke, gastroenterology, and orthopaedics.

The government expects facilities in the Health SEZ can improve the economy while enhancing healthcare facilities in Indonesia. Based on data from the National SEZ Council, by 2030, around 4-8% of Indonesia’s population or 123-240 thousand people who previously sought treatment abroad, are projected to seek treatment domestically, including at BIH.

Nominally, it is expected that by 2045, total foreign exchange savings will reach Rp 86 trillion, with an additional Rp 19.6 trillion in foreign exchange earnings during the same period. The National SEZ Council also states that the Health SEZ in Sanur has an investment value of Rp 10.2 trillion, and is anticipated to create job opportunities.

Makassar New Port: Eastern Indonesia's Gateway to the World

Transportation Minister Budi Karya Sumadi expresses optimism over the potential impact of Makassar New Port on regional development following its inauguration on 22nd February 2024 by President Jokowi

Indonesian Transportation Minister Budi Karya Sumadi conveyed his optimism regarding the newly inaugurated Makassar New Port, highlighting its potential to drive economic growth and equality in eastern Indonesia. He highlighted the importance of enhancing maritime connectivity to bolster the nation's progress, as stated in a release from his office on 22 February 2024.

Minister Sumadi accompanied President Joko Widodo who attended the inauguration ceremony of the Makassar New Port in Makassar, South Sulawesi, on 22nd February 2024. The port is poised to strengthen Makassar's position as a crucial logistics gateway in eastern Indonesia and facilitate connectivity to international trade routes. Bapak

Sumadi underscored that the Makassar New Port stands out as one of Indonesia's most robust ports, equipped to accommodate large vessels from around the world. With a current capacity of 2.5 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent units) annually, the port is positioned to emerge as a national and world-class international hub, he noted.

President Jokowi emphasised the significance of Makassar New Port in reducing logistics costs across Indonesia, particularly in the eastern region. He highlighted the substantial decline in logistics costs over the past decade,

albeit still slightly higher compared to other countries, while attributing the reduction to improved integration between ports and industrial areas.

The president also addressed the issue of dwelling time, which has seen significant improvement, with the average duration now below three days. Notably, the port's capacity has been augmented by 150 percent, reaching 2.5 million TEUs annually, while the time for ships to dock has been reduced to a maximum of 24 hours, down from the previous 48 hours.



Development Plans for Port Dumai and Port Selat Lampa

Minister Budi Karya Sumadi announces plans for the enhancement of Port Dumai in Riau and Port Selat Lampa in the Riau Islands to optimize their potential and functions

Transportation Minister Bapak Budi Karya Sumadi unveiled plans for the further development of Port Dumai in Riau Province and Port Selat Lampa in Riau Islands Province during his visit to the provinces on 8 February 2024.

Minister Pak Sumadi highlighted the untapped potential of Dumai Port and the need for its maximal utilization, especially considering the significant volume of mobility between Malaysia and Indonesia via the port.

To leverage this potential, Sumadi directs PT Pelindo, the state-owned port management company, to initiate revitalization efforts for Dumai Port, focusing on dredging ponds



and expanding the passenger terminal capacity. During his visit to Port Selat Lampa in Natuna District, Riau Islands, Minister Sumadi underscored the port's promising prospects due to its deep and

calm waters. He emphasized the necessity of constructing terminals and container areas to harness this potential effectively.

Addressing the accessibility challenges of Selat Lampa Port, Sumadi pledged collaborative efforts between the Transportation Ministry, the Public Works and Public Housing Ministry, and other stakeholders to improve accessibility and optimize the port's functions. Selat Lampa Port, situated in the strategic region of Natuna Islands along international shipping routes, holds significance in Indonesia's efforts toward equitable development across all regions, including frontier territories like Natuna Islands, under President Joko

BRIN: **Ambon City** Key Site for Blue Economy R&D

Indonesia's National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN) has identified Ambon in Maluku Province as a prime hub for pioneering blue economy

Deputy Head of BRIN, Admiral Amarulla Octavian, underscored the strategic significance of Ambon's marine resources during his visit to the city on Tuesday, 20th February 2024. This, he said, can heighten collaborative efforts to propel Indonesian maritime research to new heights.

Admiral Octavian's visit included inspections of the Deep Sea Research Centre's laboratories, where discussions with researchers underscored the importance of forging partnerships with domestic and international institutions for advancing marine exploration and development.

The integration of cutting-edge maritime technology into BRIN's innovation agenda aims to bolster sustainable marine food estate management and foster the growth of the blue economy, leveraging Ambon's abundant marine resources as a competitive edge in Indonesian marine research.



Smart Fishing Village

Ambon City's smart fishing village initiative, centred in the coastal area of Poka, is a testament to collaborative efforts between the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (MMAF), Fisheries Training and Counselling Center (BP3), Ambon City Government, and stakeholders, with a focus on developing lobster and tuna centres to enhance community livelihoods.

The Maluku provincial government aligns the blue economy development with its commitment to sustainable natural resource management, emphasising the imperative of environmental preservation, particularly

along coastal areas, to sustain the region's marine wealth and economic prosperity. Efforts to address plastic waste and maintain environmental quality are central to realising Maluku's blue economy potential, as underscored by Assistant II of the Maluku Regional Secretariat, Ibu Habiba Saimima, citing research indicating a rise in plastic waste density in Maluku waters over the past decades.

Editor's Note: In economic terms, blue economy refers to the exploitation, preservation and regeneration of the marine environment.

Indonesia Discusses **Agrarian Reform** Cooperation with

Minister AHY meets with World Bank representatives to explore collaborative schemes for accelerating agrarian reform programmes

Indonesian Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning (ATR) Minister Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono (AHY) engaged in discussions with representatives from the World Bank on Wednesday (20 March) regarding potential collaboration and ongoing initiatives related to agrarian reform programs. AHY emphasised the importance of agrarian affairs and spatial planning in stimulating economic growth while prioritising environmentally friendly practices and responsiveness to climate change.

The ATR Ministry and the World Bank have been collaborating on various

programs, with the Agrarian Reform Acceleration Program (PPRA) standing out as a flagship initiative. This program aims to expedite land registration and administration processes to provide legal certainty over all land parcels in Indonesia. Implementation strategies include guiding individuals to collect agrarian data and promoting digital transformation.

The PPRA is currently operational in 10 provinces across Indonesia, including Riau, Jambi, South Sumatra, West



Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan, South Kalimantan, East Kalimantan, West Java, Central Java, and East Java. Minister AHY highlighted the program's progress and its crucial role in achieving targeted outcomes in land administration.

Soesatyo Invites Singapore to Invest in New Capital City

Bapak Bambang Soesatyo, the Speaker of the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), welcomes Singaporean investment in Indonesia's Nusantara during a meeting with Singapore Ambassador to Indonesia, H.E. Kwok Fook Seng

The Speaker of the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR), Bapak Bambang Soesatyo, extended an invitation to Singapore to invest in Indonesia's new capital city, Nusantara, during a meeting with Singaporean Ambassador H.E. Kwok Fook Seng in Jakarta on 1st March 2024.

Bapak Soesatyo reassured potential investors, including those from Singapore, of Indonesia's safety and peace following the 14th February 2024 general elections, as he emphasised the country's stability for investment opportunities.

"Financing for the new capital development comes from the state budget, business entity work agreements (KPBUs), and private investment," he affirmed in an official statement from the MPR.

Highlighting the positive bilateral relations between Indonesia and Singapore, Bapak Soesatyo underscored Singapore's strategic importance as Indonesia's largest trading partner in Southeast Asia. He cited data showing Singapore as Indonesia's top investor from 2010 to 2023, (except for 2013), with investments totalling US\$15.4 billion, surpassing China's investment of US\$7.4 billion.

Bapak Soesatyo noted that Singapore's investments are diverse, spanning sectors such as transportation, telecommunications, agriculture, and mining, with a significant presence in various Indonesian regions. He emphasised the ample opportunities for Singaporean investment in the development of the new capital city in East Kalimantan, with wide-ranging prospects for collaboration.



Bapak Soesatyo revealed that the Indonesian government has allocated Rp75.4 trillion (around US\$4.79 billion) from the state budget for Nusantara's development until 2024, with 23 investors already involved, contributing a total of Rp41 trillion (around US\$2.6 billion) to ongoing projects.

Indonesia Outline Green Steel Initiatives at SGSF

Ambassador Suryo Pratomo underlined Indonesia's commitment to decarbonization and outlined strategies for greener steel production at the Singapore Green Steel Forum

Speaking at the Panel Discussion of the Singapore Green Steel Forum held at Sands Expo and Convention Centre on 7th May 2024, Ambassador Suryo Pratomo shared insights on the "Progress and Outlook of Global Steel Industry's Green Transformation."

Ambassador Suryo Pratomo, representing Indonesia, emphasised the nation's pledge to reduce GHG emissions by 31.89% by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2060. With Indonesia emerging as the largest steel producer in Southeast Asia, boasting a production capacity of 16 million tonnes in 2023, projected to rise to 33-35 million tonnes by 2030, Pratomo underlined the importance of accelerating decarbonization efforts. He highlighted the steel industry's large contribution to

global GHG emissions, which is estimated around 7%.

In his discourse, Ambassador Suryo Pratomo outlined Indonesia's main decarbonization strategies, including the adoption of natural-based solutions (NBS), the establishment of carbon markets, promoting renewable energy sources such as geothermal, solar, and bioethanol, advancing hydrogen and CCUS projects, fortifying the electric vehicle ecosystem, and prioritising the use of local raw materials for industry-specific local content.

The panel, moderated by Prof. Annie Koh of the Singapore Management University, featured notable industry figures such as Mr. Chen Qiang (Managing Director,



Boosteel SG), Mr. Ian Hiscock (Head of Consulting, China and SEA, CRU), Mr. Mike Zhang (Managing Director, Global Head of Metals and Mining, DBS), and Mr. Kelvin Fu (Managing Partner, Gunung Capital).

Indonesian Air Force Chief Holds Bilateral Meetings

Indonesian Air Force Chief, Marsekal TNI M. Tonny Harjono, arrives to strengthen defence ties and emphasize regional stability and security

The Indonesian Air Force Chief, Marsekal TNI M. Tonny Harjono, S.E., M.M., conducted a series of bilateral meetings with several Singaporean military officials on Wednesday 15th May 2024. The meetings aimed to enhance defence cooperation between Indonesia and Singapore.

The first meeting took place with the Chief of Defence Force (CDF) of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), Vice Admiral Aaron Beng. The discussions revolved around various strategic topics aimed at bolstering defence ties between the two countries.

Afterwards, the Indonesian Air Force Chief continued discussions with the Chief of Air Force (CAF) of the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF), Brigadier General Kelvin Fan. The talks focused on enhancing cooperation and conducting joint exercises between the air forces of both countries.

The final meeting was held with Singapore's Minister of Defence, Dr. Ng Eng Hen, emphasising the importance of defence cooperation in maintaining regional stability and security.

The series of engagements aimed to strengthen defence cooperation, particularly in the Air Force domain



between Indonesia and Singapore, while fostering closer bilateral relations.

Accompanying the Indonesian Air Force Chief were Asintel Kasau, Marsda TNI Benedictus Benny K., S.H., MAVMgt., MAIR., and Asops Kasau, Marsda TNI Minggit Tribowo, S.I.P.

Indonesia Update for Corporate Chiefs

In a special forum held on 14th May 2024, titled "Indonesia Update: Exclusive Dialogue on Policy Developments in Indonesia – Unlocking Growth Opportunities and the Future of Indonesian Fiscal Policy," Indonesian Ambassador to Singapore, H.E. Suryo Pratomo, emphasized the close ties between Indonesia and Singapore

In front of approximately 20 Singaporean corporate leaders, the Indonesian Ambassador, Mr Suryo Pratomo, underscored the strong relationship between Indonesia and Singapore during the "INDONESIA UPDATE: Exclusive Dialogue on Policy Developments in Indonesia – Unlocking Growth Opportunities and the Future of Indonesian Fiscal Policy" forum on 14th May 2024.

The forum, initiated by the Financial and Customs Attaché of the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore and supported by the Trade Attaché and Investment Attaché, aimed to provide an overview of the evolution of Indonesia's fiscal policy landscape and its implications for future governance. During the event, Mr Pratomo referenced Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's statement regarding Indonesia's

\$60 billion investments in Singapore, highlighting the significant economic ties between the two nations. Additionally, he stressed the importance of fiscal policies in future governance.

The Head of the Fiscal Policy Agency (BKF) Febrio Nathan Kacaribu, accompanied by, Head of the Center for Macroeconomic Policy (PKEM) Abdurrohman, and Head of the Center for Regional and Bilateral Policy (PKRB) Yogi Rahmayanti, provided insights into the preparation of the 2025 APBN, with a draft scheduled for presentation on 16th August 2024.

As Mr Kacaribu emphasised the importance of maintaining fiscal discipline, keeping fiscal deficits below 3%, and ensuring policy continuity and



sustainability, he highlighted the critical role of close communication with the upcoming President and their government in this process.

Indonesia Showcases Tourism Gems at NATAS Travel Fair 2024

Indonesia promotes its diverse tourist destinations at the NATAS Travel Fair 2024



Indonesia actively participated in the NATAS Travel Fair 2024 exhibition held from March 1 to March 3, 2024, at the Singapore Expo Hall 4 & 5A. Through the Wonderful Indonesia Pavilion, Indonesia showcased a variety of its top tourist destinations to visitors.

The inauguration of the Wonderful Indonesia Pavilion took place on the first day of the NATAS event, March 1, 2024. Mr. Sulistijo Djati Ismojo, the

Deputy Chief of Mission of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore, along with representatives from the Indonesian Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, officiated the opening ceremony with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The Wonderful Indonesia Pavilion collaborated with 20 travel agents and operators, including the national airline Garuda Indonesia, to entice visitors with a diverse array of tour packages,

accommodations, and flight tickets to Indonesia's various tourist spots. Real transactions totalling IDR700 million were estimated to have been made at the exhibition.

JKT Province Participation

Indonesia's participation in the NATAS Travel Fair 2024 was facilitated by the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy, the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore, and the DKI Jakarta Provincial Government. The Jakarta Provincial Government also showcased the 3rd Runner Up of Abang Nene Jakarta 2023, Zidan Nabila Akmal and Callista Sanaa Atsillah, along with industry representatives such as Bank DKI and Oddity Coffee.

To add some cultural flair to the event, Indonesia presented traditional Balinese dance performances by the Balinese dance group in Singapore, Eka Suwara Santhi, during the opening of one of Singapore's largest international tourism exhibitions.

Indonesian Food & Music at GastroBeats 2024

A vibrant fusion of culinary delights and musical performances from around the world at GastroBeats SG 2024, featuring an exclusive showcase of Indonesia's rich cultural heritage

GastroBeats SG, a premier culinary and music festival, celebrated a myriad of flavors and entertainment from around the globe. This year, the Indonesian segment of the festival featured a special showcase of delightful cuisine, handcrafted products, and live performances by famous artists.

Attendees had the chance to discover unique treasures, including necklaces, bracelets, and earrings adorned with Indonesian artistry. A stunning collection of batik and tenun garments that showcased the rich heritage and tradition of Indonesia was also available. Stylish accessories, ranging from intricately designed bags to decorative homeware,

provided visitors with the perfect items to complement their style.

The experience of Indonesian culture was a highlight of GastroBeats 2024. Held from 31 May to 23 June 2024, at Bayfront Event Space, Marina Bay Sands, it offered visitors a vibrant showcase of Indonesian craftsmanship. From 4 pm to 11 pm daily, attendees had the opportunity to explore a diverse array of handcrafted products, indulge in authentic cuisine, and experience live performances.



Indonesia-Singapore Business Forum 2024 Highlights **Economic Policies Post-Election**

Singapore and Indonesia Strengthen Economic Ties Through Strategic Business Forum



The Indonesia-Singapore Business Forum (ISBF) 2024, hosted at the Hilton Singapore Orchard, marked a significant stride in reinforcing economic relations between Indonesia and Singapore. This event, occurring just after the announcement of Indonesia's 2024 Presidential Election results, served as a pivotal platform for Singapore-based businesses to gain insights into Indonesia's future policy directions.

The forum was a collaborative effort involving the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Singapore, Indonesia Investment Promotion Centre (IIPC)-Singapore, Enterprise Singapore, and various corporate and chamber sponsors. Notably, it attracted 400 participants, including business leaders, government



Ambassador Suryo Pratomo highlighted the enduring partnership between the two nations, noting Singapore's role as a leading investor in Indonesia. The forum's discussions, led by prominent figures such as Airlangga Hartarto and Gan Kim Yong, the economic ministers from Indonesia and Singapore respectively, underscored the commitment to deepening bilateral investment and business opportunities.

The event featured insightful panels on Indonesia's economic landscape and investment opportunities under new leadership, drawing on expertise from economists, former ministers, and investment authorities. The discussions provided a forward-looking perspective on the business and investment climate in Indonesia, offering valuable information for investors and entrepreneurs keen on exploring opportunities in the evolving Indonesian market.

officials, and international ambassadors, emphasizing the event's importance in fostering Singapore-Indonesia economic collaboration.



Indonesian Sustainable Fashion Makes a Splash with ‘Indonesia in SG’ Exhibition

The “Indonesia in SG: New Horizon of Sustainable Indonesia” exhibition opens in Singapore, showcasing Indonesian fashion and culture



The Indonesian Embassy in Singapore, in a robust collaboration with multiple organizations including PT Bank Negara Indonesia (Persero) Tbk (BNI), the Ministry of Trade, and Bank Indonesia, has launched the “Indonesia in SG” retail exhibition at Takashimaya Square, Singapore. This significant event, supported also by Sarinah, KADIN (Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry), and Jakarta Fashion Week, aims to introduce sustainable Indonesian fashion products to the Singapore market.

The grand opening on April 17, 2024, was attended by prominent figures such as Mr. Cecep Herawan, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia; Mr. Suhanto, Secretary General of the Ministry of Trade; Mr. Didi Sumedi, Director General of National Export Development; Mr. Royke Tumilaar, President Director of BNI; Mrs. Fetty Kwartati, President Director of Sarinah; and Mr. Dicky Kartikoyono, Head of the Payment System Policy Department of Bank Indonesia.

Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to Singapore, Mr. Suryo Pratomo, emphasized the exhibition’s role in enhancing the GDP contribution of Indonesian products, noting their importance in job creation and

sustainable livelihoods. Meanwhile, Mr. Royke Tumilaar highlighted BNI’s commitment to supporting Indonesian SMEs in reaching the global market, saying the exhibition was a platform for opening new business opportunities.

The exhibition, which ran from 17th to 21st April 2024, is not just about fashion but also includes a vibrant array of Indonesian cultural events. Visitors can expect music performances, fashion shows, literary demonstrations, batik workshops, cooking demonstrations, and B2C trade exhibitions. Over 20 premier Indonesian fashion brands and 15 superior products from selected SMEs are on display.

With an expected turnout of 210,000 visitors based on average traffic at Ngee Ann/Takashimaya, the event promises significant exposure for Indonesian brands in one of Asia’s leading shopping destinations.



Indonesia's Vision for Water: Investment Opportunities

The Indonesian government aims to improve access to safe drinking water significantly by 2024, outlining a comprehensive plan involving major investments



The Indonesia Business Forum themed “Water Infrastructure Investment Opportunities in Indonesia,” was held at the Singapore International Water Week 2024 on 21st June 2024. Co-organized by the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN), the forum featured a number of distinguished speakers who discussed important opportunities and challenges in enhancing Indonesia's water infrastructure to meet future demands.

By 2024, the Indonesian government aims to ensure that 15% of the population can access safe drinking water, 30% benefit from piped drinking water, and all households have access to adequate drinking water. This initiative requires a budget of IDR 130 trillion, with 24% expected from public-private partnerships and B2B collaborations.

Other water investment areas, including water supply projects in the Kariangau Industrial Area and Balikpapan, are crucial for supporting the development of Indonesia's new Nusantara Capital City. Furthermore, there is an urgent need for clean water supply for marine vessels, as many major ports struggled to meet the demand for potable water. Another promising sector is hydropower plants, which taps into Indonesia's huge renewable energy potential, estimated at 94% or 95 GW, but much of it remains untapped.

The distinguished speakers who participated in this forum are Vice Chairman of Public



Works, Public Housing, and Infrastructure at KADIN Ir. Insanul Khamil; Former Expert Staff/Senior Advisor at the Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia Mr Basilio Dias Araujo; and Director of the Indonesia Investment Promotion Center (IIPC) and Investment Attache at the Ministry of Investment, Embassy of Indonesia in Singapore. Mr Andria Buchara.

Discussions at the forum underscored an ambitious plan that presented significant opportunities for investment in water infrastructure and technology. Stakeholders emphasised the importance of sustainable and efficient water management practices to achieve the outlined goals.



Lake Toba F1 Powerboat Race Attracts 70,000 Spectators

InJourney announces a turnout of 70,000 attendees for the 2024 F1 Powerboat Championship at Lake Toba, marking a significant boost for tourism and the local economy



INJOURNEY, represented by Marketing and Tourism Program Director Maya Watono, expressed gratitude to all involved parties for their enthusiasm and support towards the event, which took place on 2 – 3 March 2024. Ibu Watono highlighted the potential positive impact on Lake Toba's tourism sector and the surrounding community's economy.

The 2024 Lake Toba F1 Powerboat Grand Prix, held at Mulia Raja Harbour in Balige, Toba District, North Sumatra Province, attracted approximately 17 racers from 11 countries. The event, known for its thrilling races and the scenic backdrop of Lake Toba, garnered significant anticipation among spectators.

Rusty Wyatt from the Sharjah Team clinched victory in the championship, followed by Erik Stark from the Victory Team (SWE) in second place and Jonas Andersson from Team Binh nh-Vietnam in third. The event also featured the Aquabike Indonesia Championship (AIC), providing a platform for around 20 Indonesian jet ski racers to hone their skills and prepare for future competitions.

The event also featured the Aquabike Indonesia Championship (AIC), providing a platform for around 20 Indonesian jet ski racers to hone their skills and prepare for future competitions.

InJourney anticipates the success of the 2024 F1 Powerboat event will surpass the economic impact generated by its predecessor in 2023, which amounted to Rp1.68 trillion (US\$101 million). Additionally, organising such events in super-priority tourism destinations like Lake Toba aligns with InJourney's efforts to foster sustainable tourism development.

Bu Watono emphasised the importance of collaboration among various stakeholders, including local governments, the private sector, and state-owned enterprises, in realising the full potential of tourism destinations. By working together, these parties can maximise the economic benefits and promote long-term sustainability in Indonesia's tourism sector.



New Indonesian Property Rules Welcome Foreign Investors

Savyavasa opens doors to international investors as new Indonesian regulations allow foreign passport holders to own property in the prestigious Dharmawangsa neighborhood, South Jakarta, marking a new era of investment opportunities in Indonesia's thriving real estate market

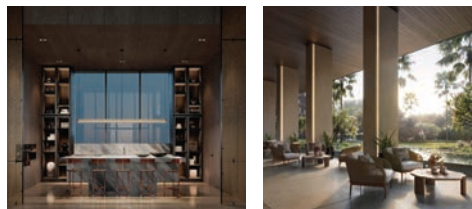
Savyavasa, a luxury residential property development set amongst three hectares of lush landscape located in the upscale and most sought-after neighborhood of Dharmawangsa, South Jakarta, is delighted to confirm the implementation of the new legislative regulation from the Indonesian Government that allows foreigners passport holders to obtain a property ownership rights in the country with simplified requirements. This significant development marks a new era of investment opportunities and international collaboration in the highly sought-after Indonesian real estate market.

With its strength of cultural heritage, breathtaking landscapes, and vibrant economy, Indonesia has long been an attractive destination for investors and expatriates seeking a diverse and dynamic living experience. The new regulations, aimed at attracting foreign investment, provide a favorable environment for international buyers to own residential property and contribute to the growth and development of Indonesia.

Savyavasa hosted a group of 20 agents from the PropNex Singapore office on 5 November. The agents, representing investors from Singapore, the Chinese Mainland, Malaysia, and beyond, were impressed by the transparent purchase process, zero additional stamp duty for foreigners, and value proposition of the luxury development.

Savyavasa, paving the way for a new standard of living in Jakarta as a one-of-a-kind residential property that combines modern luxury living with purposeful design and sustainable practices, welcomes this positive change as it aligns with the core values and commitment to fostering inclusive communities. As a result of the creative collaboration between Hong Kong's Swire Properties and Indonesia's Jakarta Setiabudi International Group under the joint venture entity of PT Jantra Swarna Dipta, Savyavasa looks forward to extending the investment opportunity to a wider audience, catering to the diverse needs and lifestyle aspirations of both local and global residents.

Through the meticulously designed apartments, crafted with attention to detail and



in harmony with the natural surroundings, Savyavasa provides residents with a truly elevated living experience in the centre of Jakarta's most vibrant and culturally rich environment.

Themed "Creating Harmony. Perfected by Nature", Savyavasa is the first high-rise residential development in Jakarta to be built with the Greenmark Gold Standard and certified in sustainability-built architecture. Surrounded by abundant outdoor space and nature, residents can experience an indoor-outdoor living environment with amenities



Photo at the Media Luncheon: Mr. Chandra Asali Director, JSI Group / President Director at PT Jantra Swarna Dipta and (Right) and Sun Media's Editor-in-Chief, Ms. Nomita Dhar

"We are ready to support foreign passport holders whether they reside overseas or are already in Indonesia. The opportunity to purchase property with no additional "foreigner tax" or duties poses an excellent investment opportunity for early movers.

Equally, we look forward to partnering with real estate agents globally. Savyavasa is excited to be at the forefront of this positive transformation, offering an exceptional residential solution that redefines luxury, sustainability, and community living in Indonesia."

- Sophie Watson-Swingewood, Vice President Director of Swire Properties Indonesia.



including an expansive open lawn, a one-kilometer jogging track, a child-friendly leisure pool, a natural kids' playground, and a lap pool. Savyavasa has three towers totaling 403 units with two- to four-bedroom apartments.

Batik Renaissance is Going Global

It feels almost like a cultural revival. Indonesia's traditional textile art is trending on the world's catwalks. Wearing one is not only fashionable but it is also a celebration of heritage, craftsmanship, and innovation that is transcending national boundaries and generations!

Batik, the ancient Indonesian art of wax-resist dyeing, is experiencing a modern revival as designers worldwide re-interpret its traditional motifs for contemporary audiences. From the high-fashion runways of Paris to the bustling streets of New York, batik has captured the imagination of designers such as Dries Van Noten, Stella McCartney, and Indonesia's own Dian Pelangi. These designers are skillfully blending traditional techniques with modern silhouettes, creating garments that are both timeless and trendy. In Indonesia, young designers are pushing the boundaries of batik by experimenting with new color palettes, patterns, and sustainable materials. This movement not only preserves the cultural heritage of batik but also injects fresh creativity into the fashion world.

Batik's Growing Global Appeal

The global appeal of batik continues to rise as more fashion houses and designers incorporate it into their collections. In Singapore, batik is cherished by both Indonesian expats and locals for its cultural significance and fashionable appeal. Its versatility allows it to be worn as elegant formal attire or as chic casual wear, making it a staple in many wardrobes. Events like Plaza Indonesia Fashion Week play a crucial role in promoting batik internationally, drawing critics, buyers, and enthusiasts who appreciate its intricate artistry and cultural depth. As a result, batik is becoming a symbol of cultural identity and a fashionable choice for people around the world.

Sustainability and Ethical Fashion: The Batik Renaissance

One of the most exciting aspects of the Batik Renaissance is its alignment with the global movement toward sustainability and ethical fashion. Many designers are using eco-friendly materials and ethical production methods, such as natural dyes and recycled fabrics, to ensure fair wages and working conditions for artisans. This approach not only helps preserve the environment but also supports local communities and preserves traditional craftsmanship. Brands like Sejauh Mata Memandang prioritize sustainable practices, ensuring that batik production is both environmentally friendly and socially responsible. By embracing these principles, the Batik Renaissance contributes to a more sustainable and equitable fashion industry.

Batik as a Cultural Bridge

For Indonesian expats in Singapore, batik serves as a cultural bridge, connecting them to their roots and sharing their heritage with the broader community. Wearing batik is a way to celebrate Indonesian culture and introduce it to a wider audience, fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation. Events such as batik festivals and cultural collaborations showcase the beauty and significance of this traditional art form, allowing people from diverse backgrounds to experience its rich history and vibrant patterns. These efforts not only preserve an important part of Indonesia's heritage but also highlight batik's potential to inspire and connect people across the globe.



Celebrating Tradition and Innovation

The Batik Renaissance highlights the timeless beauty and cultural significance of this traditional art form. With its development and worldwide recognition, batik celebrates tradition, innovation, and the enduring power of cultural expression. This revival not only preserves an important part of Indonesia's heritage but also showcases batik's potential to inspire and connect people across the globe. As the fashion world continues to embrace sustainability and cultural diversity, batik stands as a testament to the enduring appeal of traditional craftsmanship and the boundless creativity of modern design.

“This revival not only preserves an important part of Indonesia’s heritage but also showcases batik’s potential to inspire and connect people across the globe. As the fashion world continues to embrace sustainability and cultural diversity, batik stands as a testament to the enduring appeal of traditional craftsmanship and the boundless creativity of modern design.”



Iwan Tirta Private Collection

Following are some of the designers and brands who are at the forefront of the Batik Renaissance, who are preserving a cultural heritage and introducing batik to new audiences worldwide.

Indonesian Designers and Brands

Iwan Tirta

Renowned for intricate patterns and luxurious fabrics.

Dian Pelangi

Known for her vibrant and contemporary take on traditional Indonesian textiles.

Oscar Lawalata

Known for blending traditional and modern elements.

Sejauh Mata Memandang

Focuses on sustainable fashion, using eco-friendly materials and ethical production methods.

Biyan Wanaatmadja

Fuses traditional textiles with contemporary fashion, featuring intricate detailing.

International Designers and Brands

Dries Van Noten

Belgian designer showcasing batik on international runways.

Ek Thongprasert

Thai designer blending traditional textiles with modern design.

Milo Milavica

Italian designer highlighting batik’s global appeal.

Koefia Fashion School

Italian Fashion school promoting batik’s cultural significance.

Key Designers and Brands in the Batik Renaissance

The Batik Renaissance has seen the rise of numerous talented designers and brands, both from Indonesia and around the world. Notable Indonesian designers include Iwan Tirta, known for his intricate patterns and luxurious fabrics, and Oscar Lawalata, celebrated for blending traditional and modern elements. Dian Pelangi is renowned for her vibrant and contemporary take on traditional textiles, while Sejauh Mata Memandang focuses on sustainable fashion. International designers like Dries Van Noten and Ek Thongprasert have also embraced batik, showcasing its global appeal and versatility.

Discovering the Mystical Beauty of **Bromo**: A Journey Through East Java

East Java is home to some of Indonesia's most breathtaking natural wonders, and at the heart of this region lies the captivating Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park. Known for its dramatic landscapes and diverse ecosystems, the park offers an unparalleled experience for travelers seeking adventure and tranquility. With its active volcanoes, lush greenery, and mystical views, Bromo is a destination that promises to enchant every visitor.

The Bromo-Tengger-Semeru area is part of the Tengger Massif, a spectacular volcanic complex known for its striking vistas and dynamic geological features. At its heart stands Mount Bromo, an active volcano that continually captivates with its ever-changing scenery. Standing at 2,329 meters, Mount Bromo is relatively small in comparison to other volcanoes in the region but no less impressive. It is the center of attention, surrounded by a vast, otherworldly sea of volcanic sand.

times when a sea of clouds fills the valleys, leaving only the volcano peaks visible, like islands floating in the sky. Each visit to Bromo promises a unique encounter with nature's majesty.

Cemoro Lawang is a quaint village perched on the edge of the Bromo caldera, serving as a gateway to the national park. This charming village is the perfect starting point for treks and explorations, offering panoramic views of Mount Bromo and the surrounding landscapes. The village's location allows visitors to experience the area's natural beauty up close,

with numerous vantage points offering breathtaking perspectives of the volcanic scenery.

In Cemoro Lawang, visitors can immerse themselves in traditional Javanese culture. The village is home to the Tenggerese people, who have preserved their customs and way of life for generations. Visitors can witness traditional ceremonies, sample local cuisine, and interact with the friendly locals, gaining a deeper understanding of the rich cultural heritage that defines the region.

Visitors to Mount Bromo are often drawn by the promise of its stunning sunrises. As dawn breaks, the sky becomes a vibrant canvas of oranges, pinks, and purples, casting a magical glow over the landscape. Watching the first rays of sunlight illuminate the Bromo caldera is an unforgettable experience, offering a sense of serenity and awe that transcends description.

Beyond sunrise, the weather in the Bromo area offers a delightful unpredictability. On some days, the sky is a brilliant blue, providing clear views of the surrounding peaks. On other days, mystical fog rolls in, shrouding the landscape in an ethereal haze. There are also



Another gem within the Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park is Ranu Kumbolo, an exquisite lake that offers a serene escape amidst the rugged volcanic landscape. Situated at an altitude of 2,400 meters, Ranu Kumbolo is a popular destination for hikers and nature enthusiasts. The lake's crystal-clear waters reflect the surrounding hills, creating a picturesque scene that is both tranquil and invigorating.

Ranu Kumbolo is renowned for its stunning sunrises and sunsets, as well as the incredible night skies that reveal a blanket of stars. Many visitors choose to camp by the lake, enjoying the opportunity to connect with nature in a peaceful and pristine setting. The trek to Ranu Kumbolo is an adventure in itself, taking hikers through diverse terrains, from dense forests to open grasslands, each offering unique glimpses of the region's natural beauty.

For those seeking adventure, Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park offers a wealth of activities and explorations.

Hiking to the summit
of Mount Bromo

is a must-do for thrill-seekers. The journey involves a climb up a steep staircase leading to the crater's edge, where the sight and sound of the active volcano provide an exhilarating experience.

Beyond Bromo, Mount Semeru, the highest volcano in Java at 3,676 meters, presents a more challenging climb for experienced trekkers. Known as Mahameru, or the Great Mountain, Mount Semeru offers a multi-day trekking experience that takes adventurers through some of the most varied and beautiful landscapes in Indonesia. The summit provides a panoramic view of the region, rewarding hikers with a sense of accomplishment and awe.

Whether you're seeking thrilling adventures or peaceful retreats, Bromo has something to offer every traveler. The region's diverse landscapes provide endless opportunities for exploration, from hiking and climbing to photography and cultural immersion. As you journey through this magnificent part of East Java, you'll discover a world of wonder and beauty that leaves a lasting impression.

Bromo Tengger Semeru National Park is a must-visit destination for anyone exploring Indonesia. Its unique landscapes, captivating views, and rich cultural heritage make it an unforgettable experience that will leave you yearning to return. Whether you're drawn to the mystique of active volcanoes or the serenity of lush forests and tranquil lakes, Bromo promises an adventure that is both inspiring and rejuvenating. Embark on a journey to Bromo, and let the magic of East Java captivate your heart and soul.



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A Gastronomic Romp Through Orchard Road



For the next piece in IndoConnect's newest column, we will be taking you through the different cuisines and culinary delights on Orchard Road

As you step into the vibrant atmosphere of Orchard Road, amidst the luxury stores and bustling crowds, prepare to embark on a culinary adventure like no other. From light snacks to indulgent desserts, Orchard Road offers a diverse array of dining options to tantalise your taste buds.

Uncle Chieng Traditional Ice Cream beckons with its humble ice cream cart adorned with a red umbrella, offering a refreshing respite from the sun with unique flavours and delightful treats.

For a taste of home, head to Lucky Plaza and savour the flavours of Indonesia at **Bebek Goreng Pak Ndut**, a beloved establishment known for its crispy fried duck and mouth watering sambals.

Indulge in the art of dim sum at **Din Tai Fung**, where Michelin-starred xiao long bao awaits, perfect for family gatherings or business meetings in the heart of Orchard Road.

Ippudo Ramen tantalises with its rich umami broths and savoury toppings, drawing in crowds of hungry tourists and

locals alike, while **Lady M** offers a taste of New York with its exquisite cakes and pastries, ideal for a decadent afternoon tea.



And no visit to Orchard Road is complete without a taste of **Garrett Popcorn**, a beloved souvenir that brings the flavours of Chicago to your doorstep, perfect for munching on as you explore the vibrant streets.

Whether you're craving traditional delights or seeking culinary innovation, Orchard Road has something for everyone. So, venture beyond the ordinary and discover a world of gastronomic delights in the heart of Singapore's premier shopping district.



Kaharsa – A Story of Jakarta

The ICN (Indonesian Cultural Night) production this time bypasses mythical folklore and historical tales and takes just a few steps back to a more contemporary time in the 70s



Jason Jovi is the producer of the latest musical production (in English) that was staged by the student group of Indonesians at Nanyang Technological University otherwise known as PINTU. The cast and crew had come from diverse backgrounds from all over Indonesia and many are from the engineering and business faculties but their yearly productions are polished with a professional-like sheen that attracts hundreds, if not thousands to support their annual productions.

And as expected, these productions always touch on various aspects of Indonesian life and cultural heritage. But this year's production titled 'Kaharsa A Musical' was a little different from their usual productions. Jason, who has already graduated with an engineering degree, said "Of course, many Indonesians including those in the diaspora and students here will notice the story's allegory to their own situation in coming to Singapore and whether they will stay here or go back home."

Push and pull factors, the relationships and attractions (and distractions) of the city play to sets, music and fashion of the Seventies – all brought to life with an original script, music, lyrics and choreography created and performed by the 150-member cast and crew who call themselves the Committee for the play for Kaharsa which means finding joy in living our passion in Sanskrit.

"We actually started planning this production at the beginning of 2023 with



the script and much research from the cultural side, whether it be the sets, the costumes, the music and how people behaved in that era; then throughout last August to December our Committee members have done many rehearsals to prepare for the presentation itself on 3rd February 2024 at the National Library Drama Centre Theatre," said Jason.

Challenges

The biggest challenges said Jason was that "We are a community of Indonesian NTU students so most of our practices, rehearsals and events or any other activities related to Kaharsa have to be done around our academic schedules and each ICN we have many uni students who have no prior background in performing or have been part of a musical performance. So we need to come together as a community to overcome this by learning and practicing these new theatre skills from more experienced members for us to be able to present a coherent story and structure in the performance that is also entertaining. At the core of what we want to share is how Indonesian culture used to be back in our home country but as we are young we had to do much research for the 70s period."



SHOW CREDITS

Producer

Jason Jovi Brata

Artistic Directors

Billy Muliorahardjo
Andrea Adriana Prawono

Main Actors

Richard Fernando
Joanna Chen
Sharon Tjipto Santoso
Hartawan Surya Santoso
Stephen Edbert
Ardi Syahda Ahmad Hakim
Margaretha Exaudi Siahaan

Script & Lyrics

Muhammad Rafi Adzikra Sujai

Music Directors & Composers

Gerren Owen Limantara
Rachel Evelyn
Nathaniel Teopilus
Vanness Valentino

Review Note: For the full show report visit: www.indoconnectsingapore.com



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