While Brunei Darussalam en-joys a warm climate, its huge oil and gas reserves, the Southeast Asian nation had to re-ly on its traditional oil revenue for a few years when the world price of oil fell sharply. Amid this pro-critical environment, Brunei con-tinues to press ahead with its efforts to diversify in economy.

In 2016, the government launched a long-term national development plan, the “Brunei Darussalam Vision 2035” or “Vision Brunei,” to help guide the nation to a full-fledged, modern, independent society. The vision is to have a sustainable economy, the govern-ment is aggressively develop- ing new sources of revenue outside oil and gas industries, and to attract as many as possible of the young generation, as well as the high-quality, career-oriented expatriates back to the country.

While our exports still depend heavi-ly in the oil and gas industry, Brunei has also committed itself to cre-ating a business-friendlier envi-ronment and improving the ease of doing business through the streamlining of certain processes. The government had set the target of 2015 for undertaking all the six core actions, the past nine years, the Brunei Economic Development Board (BEBD) underwent restruc-turing several times as it focused on attracting foreign direct in-vestment (FDI) more widely. “The Brunei Economic Devel-opment Board continues to pro-vide assistance and facilitation for foreign direct investment propo-sals working closely with the In-trust and Support Centre (PAST),” said CEO Chong Joon Han, speaking off the government’s efforts to diversify its industries and to prepare new and agile economies.

While Brunei Darussalam is a per-fect platform and gateway to the ASEAN market, in addition, we provide easy connectivity to the Middle East and China through our ports and air, our country has a viable political and macroeconomic environment, there is little economic down-turn and low crime rates,” the Chance-llor of the Ministry of Finance, Inte-gration and Insurance said.

“The provision of a good living environment and business place for more investors and busi-nesses, making Brunei Darussalam an ideal place for both investment and business said, Brunei.

While Indonesia is one of Brunei’s most important trading partners on oil and gas industries. It is expected that Brunei will need to upgrade itself from gas exporter to major gas importer from Japan, given from Japan as much as $4.52 bil-lion in 2015 to as much as $1.41 billion in 2031.

Japanese companies, particu-larly Mitsubishi Corp. have been making inroads in several port-foils in oil and gas sector, in-cluding Brunei Darussalam Shell Tankers, Brunei Gas Carriers and the Barito Water Project, an investment area in Brunei such as renewable energy and marine.

The government continues to work on attracting investment in agriculture, business, and pharma-ceutical industry.

The long-standing economic relationship between Japan and Brunei, is well-established with both nations and industries that continued to collaborate with each other. Both countries have already committed to the col-laboration in the manufacturing, gar-cen, particularly to market “trade free agreement” Rahmat.

“The agriculture and fisheries, forestry sector and sectors contributed 2.8 and 0.2 per cent of GDP respectively in 2016. It is expected that these sectors will have a higher GDP contribution in the next five years,” said the prime minister.

Two years on a new era is underway, the government in channeling the right students to Japan, the Ministry also recently hosts Japanese Ambassador to Brunei to Japan in a series of Japan’s hosts to the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan’s Ambassador to Brunei, Mr. Takaaki Sato.

The government has always provided support to invest-ment in the country’s education sector and industry for the cooperation to the country’s objectives of attracting more Japanese collaboration.

For the next five years, the Ministry also plans to invest an additional $4.5 million to strengthen the university’s education and research facilities and $2.5 million in other infrastructure projects.

In addition, the government has also committed to invest $1.5 million to further strengthen the university’s education and research facilities and $1 million in other infrastructure projects.

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