

Bhutan

Summary

Political Constitutional monarchy, whose external relations were guided by the United Kingdom until 1949, and since then by India. Member of UN and Colombo Plan

Economic There has been little industrial development, and timber has been the main export. Transport is being improved, and hydro-electric stations have been set up. Tourism has become important

People, resources and equipment

Population 1960 0.84**mn, 1970 1.05**mn, 1976 1.20**mn
 Growth: 1960-70 2.3**%pa, 1970-76 2.3*%pa
 Density (1976): 26* people per km²
 Vital statistics (rate per 1 000 people, 1970-75): births 43.6, deaths 20.5
City Thimbu (capital)
Race (1970) Tibetan 60**% (of whom, Bhotias 56%), Gurungs 20**%, Assamese 12**%
Language Dzongkha (Tibetan/Burmese)
Religion (1970) Mahayana Buddhist 75**%, Hindu 25**%
Education (1976) Pupils 19 000, teachers 682
Labour force (1976) 588 000; in agriculture 551 000 (94%)
Personnel (1971) Physicians: 22, 1 per 49 000 people
National income per person (1976) N 630** = \$ 70** = £ 40**
Telephones (Dec 1976) 1 082, 1 per 1 000 people
Livestock (000, 1976) Cattle 198*, sheep 39*, goats 20*, pigs 56*
Electrical capacity (1974) 4 megawatts
Hospital beds (1971) 2 740, 1 per 390 people
Roads (1976) 1 500* km = 930* mi, density 0.03* km per km²
 There are no railways
Airport Paro
Radio sets (Dec 1968) 3 000, 3 per 1 000 people
Motor vehicles (Dec 1971) 700, 0.6 per 1 000 people, 0.5 per km of road

Production, finance and trade

Gross domestic product 1976 est: N 800**mn = \$ 90**mn = £ 50**mn
Main products Agriculture (000 t, 1976) Rice 280*, wheat 61*, maize 56*, potatoes 37*, jute 5*, milk 12* Other Fruit preserves, distillery products, textiles
Tourism Bhutan was opened-up for tourists from October 1974. Number of visitors (1976): 1 500*
Budget (1976/77; year ending March 31st)
 Balanced at N 89.5 mn = \$ 10 mn = £ 6 mn
External trade (1976) Imports: N 13***mn = \$ 1.5***mn = £ 0.8***mn
 Exports: N 9***mn = \$ 1***mn = £ 0.6***mn
Main imports Textiles and light equipment
Main exports Timber, fruit and vegetables, distilled spirits, dolomite
Sources and destinations Mainly India; also Singapore

Brunei

State of Brunei
 Negeri Brunei



Location South-east Asia
 On the north-west coast of the island of Borneo surrounded by Sarawak (Malaysia)
Land Area 5 765 km² = 2 226 mi²
Climate Tropical
Weather at Bandar Seri Begawan
 Temperature: hottest month July 25*-31**°C, coldest Dec-Feb 24*-30**°C
 Rainfall (av monthly): driest month Jan 110*mm, wettest Oct 465*mm

Time 8 hours ahead of GMT
Measures UK (imperial) system; also local measures, including:
 weight (mass) 1 kati = 16 tahils = 0.605 kilogram = 1 1/3 pounds
 1 gantang = 6 katis = 3.63 kilograms = 8 pounds
 1 pikul or picul = 100 katis = 60.48 kilograms = 133 1/3 pounds
Monetary unit Brunei dollar (Br \$) = 100 cents
Rate of exchange (1976 av): free Br \$ 2.520 = \$ 1, Br \$ 4.550 = £ 1

Summary

Political Sultanate, with responsibility for internal affairs, but with the United Kingdom responsible for external affairs; full independence at end 1983 has been agreed. Brunei is the only Malay state which did not join in the formation of Malaysia in 1963

Economic The economy is dependent on crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas which account for virtually all exports. Transport facilities are being developed (notably a deep-water port at Muara), and new industry is to be encouraged

People, resources and equipment

Population 1960 84 000, 1970 130 000*, 1976 177 000*
 Growth: 1960-70 4.5*%pa, 1970-76 5.3*%pa
 Density (1976): 31* people per km²
 Vital statistics (rate per 1 000 people, 1976): births 29.9, deaths 3.8
Cities (population in 000, 1976) Bandar Seri Begawan* (capital) 75*, Seria, Kuala Belait
 *Formerly called Brunei Town
Race (1976) Malay 59%, Chinese 24%, other indigenous 10%
Language Malay; Chinese and English are also used
Religion (1971) Moslem 62%, Buddhist 13%, Christian 8%
Education Pupils (1976) 46 770, teachers (1973) 2 371
Labour force (1971) 41 099; in agriculture 4 776 (12%), mining and quarrying 2 915 (7%), manufacturing 1 751 (4%), construction 8 090 (20%)
Personnel Scientists and engineers (1971): 589
 Physicians (1974): 41, 1 per 3 660 people
Standard of living
 National income per person (1976): Br \$ 12 000** = \$ 4 800** = £ 2 600**
 Consumption per person (1975): energy 9 628 kg coal equivalent, electricity (production) 1 400 kW h, newsprint 1.4 kg
 Newspapers (1972): number 1; circulation (1969) 7 000, 60 per 1 000 people
 Telephones (Dec 1976): 11 070, 61 per 1 000 people
Livestock (000, 1976) Buffaloes 17*, cattle 3*, pigs 14*, chickens 894*
Mineral reserves (1975) Crude oil 254 mn tonnes
 Natural gas 187 000 mn cubic metres
Petroleum refinery capacity (1975) 90 000* tonnes
Electrical capacity (1975) 81 megawatts
Hospital beds (1974) 490, 1 per 300 people
Roads (1976) 1 260* km = 780* mi, density 0.22* km per km²
Railways (1976) 10* km = 6* mi, density 0.002* km per km²
Ships (registered, 1977) 2, of 899 gross tons
Ports Muara, Bandar Seri Begawan, Kuala Belait
Airport Bandar Seri Begawan
Durable equipment (Dec 1975) Radio sets: 21 000, 125 per 1 000 people
 Television sets: 10 000*, 60* per 1 000 people
 Passenger cars: 22 300, 133 per 1 000 people, 17.7 per km of road
 Commercial vehicles: 4 000, 24 per 1 000 people, 3.2 per km of road

Production, finance and trade

Gross domestic product
 1976 est: Br \$ 2 500**mn = \$ 1 000**mn = £ 550**mn
Structure of gross domestic product (1971) *By origin* Agriculture 4%, mining and quarrying 52%, construction 10%, other 34%
Main products (000 t) Agriculture (1976) Rice 4*, cassava 3*, bananas 2*, meat 4*, fish catch 1.6, timber (000 m³) 227
 Other (1975) Crude oil 8 639, petroleum products 54, natural gas (mn m³) 6 000, electricity (mn kW h) 230.
 Growth of crude oil production: 1960-70 3.8%pa, 1970-75 5.3%pa
Transport traffic Air (1976) Passenger departures 83 186
 Sea (1975) Goods loaded 16.2 mn t, unloaded 0.44 mn t
Budget (1976) Revenue: Br \$ 1 185 mn = \$ 470 mn = £ 260 mn
 Expenditure: Br \$ 617 mn = \$ 245 mn = £ 136 mn
External trade (1976) Imports: Br \$ 642 mn = \$ 255 mn = £ 141 mn
 Exports: Br \$ 3 264 mn = \$ 1 295 mn = £ 717 mn
Main imports (1974) % of total **Main exports** (1975) % of total
 Iron and steel 26 Crude oil 78
 Machinery, non electric 14 Natural gas 17
 Food 14 Petroleum products 4
 (of which, cereals 5)
 Chemicals 8
 Metal small manufactures 7
 Motor vehicles 5
 Electrical machinery 4
Main sources (1975) **Main destinations** (1975)
 United States 23 Japan 78
 Japan 22 South Africa 7
 Singapore 17 United States 7
 United Kingdom 12 Malaysia 5
 Netherlands 5 Taiwan 2
 Malaysia 5
 West Germany 3