

162

# Reminder from PM to civil servants...

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**KOTA KINABALU, Mon.** — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir today reminded civil servants not to be personally involved in business ventures, saying there was a danger that such an involvement might lead to a conflict of interests between their role as government servants and their business interest.

This would affect the smooth running of the Government's administrative machinery, the Prime Minister added.

Speaking at the opening of the \$6 million Wisma Khidmat owned by the Civil Service Consumer Co-operative Society here, he said the Government had formulated several new procedures aimed at curbing civil servants from getting directly involved in business ventures.

He said although these measures had been well received by the majority of government servants, there were some who had yet to comply with them.

However, he said, civil servants could still invest in business ventures as shareholders.

## Efficiency

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir added that these measures were necessary to ensure the continued rapid development and efficiency in the civil service.

He said Malaysia had achieved tremendous development since independence and the people had enjoyed the benefits.

"Without this efficient administration, Malaysians would not have been able to enjoy their present standard of living," he said.

The Prime Minister said civil servants were also encouraged to participate in co-operative movement.

He praised the Civil Service Consumer Co-operative Society for its success and for its efforts in bringing benefits to its members through various business ventures.

He also encouraged them to invest in other States as was being done by a Sabah public corporation.

## Dedication

Earlier, State Secretary Datuk Abdul Hamid Egeh, who is also the chairman of the co-operative, thanked the State Government for promoting the welfare of public service officers in co-operative ventures by providing financial support.

He said the co-operative had started off in a very limited way in 1974 with a mini supermarket but had gradually

progressed to own one of the most modern supermarkets in Sabah.

Datuk Hamid described the members of the Sabah civil service as very fortunate because apart from the financial assistance for building the supermarket, the State Government had also allocated 10,000 acres of land for its cocoa project.

Datuk Hamid said that civil service officers should make use of all the contributions of the Government as an incentive for achieving a higher standard of performance and for carrying out their duties with a sense of honesty and dedication.

Earlier, the Prime Minister was given a big welcome by thousands of people who converged on the airport at noon today on his arrival here.

The airport was a riot of colour as people in different attire and head-gears thronged the apron to catch a glimpse of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah.

It is Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir's first official visit here since becoming Prime Minister.

As they alighted from the special F-28 jet, the first to greet them were the Chief Minister Datuk Harris Salleh and Datin Rupiah who escorted them to a special dais.

The Prime Minister took the salute and inspected a guard of honour mounted by 55 officers and men of the 1st Battalion, Royal Malay Regiment, under the command of Capt. Yasan Wahid.

After the airport ceremony, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir paid a courtesy call on the Yang di-Per-tua Negeri, Tun Haji Mohamed Adnan Robert.