

FM -CO-OPERATIVES
BM

83
KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 3 (BERNAMA) -- THE SETTING UP OF A CO-OPERATIVE MUST BE MOTIVATED BY THE DESIRE TO INVOLVE ONESELF IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES ON A CO-OPERATIVE BASIS AND NOT FOR SELF INTERESTS OR MERELY AS A SOCIAL ACTIVITY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT CO-OPERATIVES SHOULD NOT ALSO BE SET UP WITH THE PURPOSE OF EVADING TAX OR CONTROL BY ANY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY.

+SIMILARLY, CO-OPERATIVES SHOULD NOT BE MADE THE STEPPING STONE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR,+ HE SAID WHEN LAUNCHING CELEBRATIONS TO MARK THE 51ST INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE DAY AND OPENING THE FIFTH NATIONAL SEMINAR OF THE NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE UNION (ANGKASA) HERE.

OUTLINING THE ROLE OF CO-OPERATIVES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT CO-OPERATIVES WERE NOT THE PLACE FOR PEOPLE TO ACQUIRE WEALTH THROUGH LETTING OTHERS DO THE WORK +WHILE WE JOIN IN ENJOYING THE PROFITS OR SEEK BENEFIT FROM CAPITAL GAINS.+

HE SAID THAT A CO-OPERATIVES WAS NOT THE BUSINESS OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR OF CERTAIN MEMBERS ONLY BUT WAS THAT OF ALL ITS MEMBERS. -- MORE 1246/MK

PM-CO-OPERATIVES 2 KUALA LUMPUR

AS SUCH MEMBERS OF CO-OPERATIVES SHOULD ALWAYS STRIVE TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS AND CO-OPERATE TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE CO-OPERATIVES AND BRING BENEFIT TO ALL MEMBERS, HE ADDED.

A MEMBER SHOULD NOT THINK ABOUT WHAT HE COULD GAIN BY BECOMING A MEMBER BUT ON THE OTHER HAND THINK ABOUT HOW HE COULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE CO-OPERATIVE, HE SAID.

IN THE END, THE CONTRIBUTION MADE BY THE MEMBER WOULD BENEFIT HIM ALSO, HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IT WAS HUMAN NATURE TO BE SELF-CENTRED BUT MOST OF THE PEOPLE DID NOT KNOW WHERE THEIR INTEREST LAY.

HE SAID THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE DID THINGS THEY THOUGHT WERE SERVING THEIR OWN INTERESTS BUT IN THE LONG RUN REALISED THAT THIS WAS NOT SO.

-- MORE 1316/LK

PM - CO-OPERATIVES 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IN A CO-OPERATIVE, FOR EXAMPLE, THE COMMITTEE, SECRETARY, TREASURER AND OTHERS OFTEN TOOK CERTAIN ACTIONS THAT WOULD BENEFIT THEM IN THE SHORT TERM.

THEY DID NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THAT MALPRACTICES WOULD ULTIMATELY BE DISCOVERED AND WHEN THIS HAPPENED, NOT ONLY WOULD THE CO-OPERATIVE BE RUINED BUT THEY ALSO, HE ADDED.

HE ALSO SAID THAT SOMETIMES WHILE THE COMMITTEE AND OTHER MEMBERS WERE CARRYING OUT THEIR WORK WELL, THERE WERE GROUPS OF MEMBERS WHO WER

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WHO WERE ENVIIOUS AND SOUGHT WAYS TO TAKE OVER THE CO-OPERATIVE.

+THEIR INTENTIONS MAY BE GOOD, MAY BE NOT: BUT SOMETIMES IT HAPPENS THAT WHEN A CO-OPERATIVE IS TAKEN OVER BY INCOMPETENT AND IRRESPONSIBLE MEMBERS, THE CO-OPERATIVE WILL COLLAPSE,+ HE ADDED.

HE BELIEVED THAT IF THE MANAGEMENT OF CO-OPERATIVES CARRIED OUT THEIR TASKS ACCORDING TO THE RULES, THE CO-OPERATIVES WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL AND ALL WOULD BENEFIT. -- MORE 1415/MB

PM - CO-OPERATIVES 4 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID IT WAS CLEAR WHERE ONE'S INTEREST LAY IN A CO-OPERATIVE.

+WHAT BENEFITS THE GROUP WOULD FINALLY BRING MORE BENEFIT TO THE INDIVIDUAL,+ HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE CONCEPT OF CO-OPERATIVES WAS NOT SOMETHING ALIEN TO THE MALAYS BUT WAS SOMETHING THAT WAS FOUND IN MOST COMMUNITIES.

HE SAID THAT THE GOTONG-ROYONG CONCEPT WAS POPULAR AMONG THE MALAYS BUT THIS WAS MORE A SOCIAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONCEPT.

THIS WAS POSSIBLY DUE TO THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY WHERE ALL ACTIVITIES HAD IMPORTANT SOCIAL DIMENSIONS, HE ADDED.

-- MORE 1422/MB

PM - CO-OPERATIVE 5 KUALA LUMPUR

THIS COULD ALSO BE ONE OF THE CAUSES OF THE WEAKNESSES IN THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES OF A CO-OPERATIVE BECAUSE THERE WERE GROUPS WHICH CONSIDERED IT TO BE MORE OF A SOCIAL MACHINERY, HE SAID.

CALLING ON ALL MEMBERS TO BECOME INVOLVED TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THEIR CO-OPERATIVES, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REMINDED THAT THE MANAGEMENT OF CO-OPERATIVES SHOULD NOT BE HANDED ALL OVER TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WITHOUT THE ORDINARY MEMBERS PLAYING A ROLE AND KNOWING ABOUT THE CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS.

SIMILARLY, THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY MEMBERS WHO WERE +PASSENGERS+ OR +SLEEPING MEMBERS+ IN CO-OPERATIVES, HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT THROUGH THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT, THE MEMBERS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC MATTERS BESIDES PROMOTING UNDERSTANDING AND UNITY.

HE SAID THAT THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN SCHOOLS AND AMONG THE COMMUNITY COULD CERTAINLY ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN SEVERAL WAYS IN CREATING A MALAYSIAN COMMUNITY THAT WAS HARDWORKING, WILLING TO CO-OPERATE AND BE SELF-RELIANT IN PURSUING PROGRESS AND SUCCESS.
-- MORE 1445/MB

PM - CO-OPERATIVES 6 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THAT CO-OPERATIVES WERE NOT CREATED TO MAKE LARGE PROFITS BUT THEIR ORIGINAL OBJECTIVES WERE TO SERVE AS EXAMPLES IN PROVIDING CLEAN, EFFICIENT AND TRUSTWORTHY SERVICE TO BENEFIT THE MEMBERS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT CO-OPERATIVES SHOULD HELP TO REDUCE THE BURDENS OF MEMBERS THROUGH VARIOUS FACILITIES SUCH AS THE PURCHASE OF GOODS IN BULK AND SELLING THEM AT REASONABLE PRICES TO THEM.

+ALL THESE WILL HELP THE CONSUMERS, PARTICULARLY THE LOWER INCOME GROUP,+ HE SAID.

+THESE WERE ALL THEORIES ABOUT CO-OPERATIVES BUT THEY WOULD NOT PRODUCE THE DESIRED RESULTS EXCEPT THROUGH SINCERITY AND TRUSTWORTHY EFFORTS BY ALL THOSE INVOLVED, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TO SEE THAT THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT WAS SUCCESSFUL. --
MORE 1510/MK

PM - CO-OPERATIVE 7 KUALA LUMPUR

TOWARDS THIS END, HE REMINDED THAT THE MANAGEMENT OF CO-OPERATIVES MUST BE UPGRADED SO THAT THEY COULD BE RUN MORE ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

HE URGED ALL CO-OPERATIVES TO EMULATE THE EXAMPLE OF ANGKASA WHERE THE LEADERS SERVED WITHOUT ASKING FOR ANY HONORARIUM.

THEIR VOLUNTARY SERVICE WOULD FORM AN IMPORTANT BASIS FOR THE TRUE CO-OPERATIVE SPIRIT, HE ADDED.

LATER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR LATER PRESENTED PRIZES TO THE 1983 OUTSTANDING CO-OPERATORS -- HAJI OTHMAN ABDULLAH OF MELAKA, ABDUL MAJID MAT ADAM OF TERENGGANU AND ISMAIL BABA OF MELAKA.

PRESENT WERE NATIONAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DATUK SANUSI JUNID, AGRICULTURE MINISTER DATUK MANAN OTHMAN AND ANGKASA PRESIDENT ROYAL PROF. UNGKU AZIZ. -- BERNAMA 1515/MK