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Parliament-Debate

GOVT SHOULD REVIEW METHOD OF DEVELOPING BCIC- BACKBENCHER

KUALA LUMPUR, April 23 (Bernama) -- Member of Parliament for Tambun Datuk Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah today proposed that the government review the method of developing a Bumiputera Commercial and Industrial Community (BCIC) so that it will be relevant to the current industrial development trend.

He said the policies to be implemented by the government to develop the BCIC under the Eighth Malaysia Plan did not differ much from that of the last plan save for the setting up of the Information Technology and Communication Council and the National Entrepreneur Institute.

He said this would result in the government continuing to use the old approach which was not very suitable for the development of the BCIC in facing the globalisation era with its even greater challenges.

"We must see the matter from a more realistic angle because to develop a successful entrepreneur it is not easy," he said when taking part in the debate on the Eighth Malaysia Plan tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad earlier in the House today.

Husni said if viewed from the aspect of History, Bumiputera participation in the commercial sector was actually not as glorious as that of the Chinese community in this country.

He said there were not many Bumiputera entrepreneurs of integrity, in fact many were actually dependent on the Government.

Husni said a review in the approach was in order particularly when the present trend in the industrial sector was more inclined towards company mergers to create bigger entities.

In this respect, he proposed that the government take advantage of the existence of various races in this country each with its own expertise and specialisation to create companies which were more competitive and that which would be of mutual help.

"For instance the Malays have their special rights while the Chinese have 90 per cent of the secret for successful business, why not merge these special rights and business secret for their common success," he said.

He said through sharing between the Malays and Chinese on a 50-50, or 40-60 or even 30-70 per cent basis, it would help the BCIC own more equity and be more stable.

Husni said this method would be profitable and speed up the development of Bumiputera entrepreneurs than providing 100 per cent Bumiputera equity ownership to Bumiputera companies which, according to him, actually did not have the capability to achieve progress.

On the development of Information Communication Technology (ICT), he said it should stress on the education and training system which should be able to create students able to compete in the international market.

He said the government should stress on a strategic approach either by recruiting able teachers from abroad or sending more students overseas to ensure that they kept abreast of knowledge in this field.

He also touched on the need to protect the environment in the implementation of the planned development programmes.

"In the Eighth Malaysia Plan, the government should ensure that industrial development is balanced with the needs of the environment to ensure continued protection of the surroundings," he said.

The Dewan will sit again tomorrow.

-- BERNAMA

NHA MS AAM