

WHOLESALE COOPERATIVE PLAN

CONSORTIUM A LIFELINE FOR CONSUMERS

Comprising over 3,000 retail outlets, it will offer cheaper essential items to ease supply chain issues, says Angkasa chief

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A CONSORTIUM comprising over 3,000 retail outlets offering cheaper essential items to consumers will be set up soon.

National Cooperative Movement of Malaysia Bhd (Angkasa) president Datuk Abdul Fattah Abdullah said it would serve as a coordinator to supply daily necessities at affordable prices within the supply chain system which had been manipulated by middlemen, resulting in the rising cost of goods.

He said Angkasa would also work with the National Farmers' Association and the Congress of Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services to expand the supply chain of agriculture products to more target groups.

He said the retail outlets under the coordination of Angkasa will be able to sell items between five and 15 per cent cheaper.

He said cooperatives may also

be part of the suppliers if the outlets were merged as a consortium.

"Angkasa will lead in terms of monitoring and credit facilities of about RM10,000. So, the cooperative outlets will source the goods from suppliers and Angkasa will make the payments to the latter."

He said the move was aimed at offering goods at competitive prices, while creating a holistic business ecosystem.

It was reported that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, in mulling the setting up of a wholesale cooperative, said it would be able to supply goods in bulk at affordable prices to all cooperatives. This would enable consumers to buy basic necessities at cheaper prices from some 1,500 cooperatives nationwide.

He had said the government would continue to implement various programmes, including the Malaysian Family Sale, in all the parliamentary constituencies twice a month to help ease the financial burden of the people.