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## **Mauritius Seeks To Improve Industries Via Cooperation With Angkasa**

PETALING JAYA, Nov 14 (Bernama) -- Mauritius seeks to improve its food import and other related industries following the collaboration between its Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives and Angkatan Koperasi Kebangsaan Malaysia Bhd (Angkasa).

"Through our collaboration with Angkasa, we look forward to increase our imports of Malaysian food products.

"Apart from that, we also hope our fishery and tourism industries could be improved through the assistance to be given by Angkasa, especially in training and business development, as well as business opportunities that we could gain from Angkasa's business platform," said its Minister of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives, Soomilduth Bholah.

He told reporters this after a meeting with Angkasa President, Datuk Abdul Fattah Abdullah here today.

Bholah said the republic had been importing a variety of food products from Malaysia including biscuits, juices and dry foods.

Meanwhile, Mauritius has recently set up its own apex cooperative body that will have the same roles and responsibilities as Angkasa and the latter is expected to provide assistance on training and business development to this new body.

"Angkasa would identify the needs of the republic in its cooperative training and development, and we would adjust accordingly to help the cooperatives in Mauritius soar," said Abdul Fattah, adding the Mauritius apex body had 12 staff and the training and development programme would start in 2018.

Mauritius has 1,200 operating cooperatives nationwide and is planning to set up a cooperative college in the country.

"We have more than 125,000 cooperatives and small and medium enterprises in the country, and altogether, they have contributed up to 50 per cent of Mauritius' total Gross Domestic Product," said Bholah.

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