

Gebyar Koperasi 2014, Students Must Unite Toward AEC Challenges

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Gebyar Koperasi (The highlights Cooperative) 2014 was held on Sunday, 30 November 2014, at the Pertamina Sylva IPB, Dramaga Campus, Bogor. The theme of Gebyar Koperasi 2014 is Developing Cooperative System to Respond the Asean Economic Community Challenge and Local Economy. This event was attended by 300 participants consisting of students of IPB, State University of Jakarta (UNJ), and STIE Jakarta.

The Gebyar Koperasi 2014 was implemented just right before the activation of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015. By implementing the AEC, the free market system will be applied on ASEAN. Accordingly, the Student Cooperative (KOPMA) of IPB is expected to play an important role toward the implementation of AEC. Students as well, they are also required to have changes in their society. Moreover, recently IPB also began to increase its contribution for cooperatives around the IPB campus.

"We as agents of change must unite in the face of the AEC," said chairman of KOPMA IPB, Adam Priyo Hartono, who is student of FMIPA IPB.

"We are determined to create conducive environment for the development and growth of small businesses and cooperatives toward the challenges of the implementation of the AEC in 2015. To respond this issue, KOPMA IPB continues to develop innovation for the advancement of cooperative," said Chairman of the Organizing Committee of Gebyar Koperasi 2014, Heyda Irani, who is currently the student of FEMA IPB .

As people's economic strength is based on kinship, cooperatives should increase their capacities and competencies toward the globalization. On the other hand, the role of cooperatives has been recognized by the United Nations (UN) as an economic institution that assist the government to alleviate the poverty lines, unemployment, and successfully survived in times of crisis.

The next item of the Gebyar Koperasi 2014 program, was remarks by Keynote Speaker by representatives of the Ministry of Cooperatives and Small and Medium Enterprises of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Ir. Pariaman Sinaga, MM. The theme of his presentation was the Cooperative Indonesia in the Future as the Propeller of the Indonesian economy. Then proceeded with the talk show on the Role of Cooperatives Toward a Global Economy, by Iwan Setiawan, Chairman of the Sejahtera Bersama Cooperative, as a resource. The event was terminated by the distribution of door prizes. (Wied).