

THE STUDY ON THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING THE
BUSINESS ACTIVITIES OF KO-OPERASI ITM SARAWAK

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A Research Paper submitted in partials fulfillment for
The requirement for the Diploma in Business Studies.

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Shah Alam, Selangor

May, 1985

Acknowledgements

We would like to convey our utmost thanks and gratitude to those who have given us guidance and assistance in completing this research.

We owe our greatest gratitude to our advisor, Cik Faridah Hj. Hassan, who has been exceptionally helpful and encouraging. Her critics towards our work helped to improved some of our flaws.

In addition to that, we are also indebted to our assistant advisor Puan Norlida and co-advisor Encik Hamdan Mohd. Ma'ad for contributing informations we required.

Our thanks are also extended to the following person:-

1. Chairman of Kooperasi ITM, Sarawak Bhd.
Encik Wan Mortadza Wan Mustapha
2. General Manager of Koperasi ITM, Shah Alam Bhd.
Tuan Syed Hassan
3. Staff of ITM, Kuching, Sarawak.
 - a) Lecturers
 - b) Officers and Clerks.

Heartiest appreciation also goes to:-

1. The Statistical Officer of Jabatan Pembangunan Koperatif Malaysia.
Encik Ismail Suhaimi

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1.

INTRODUCTION

Ko-operasi ITM Sarawak was first formed on the 30th December, 1978. It set-up a store selling stationeries and text-books. However, the store was closed down in early 1981 probably because of the poor response from the students. Moreover, during those years, the number of students were very small and so the ITM library could cater enough books, magazines, newspapers and other services for these small numbers of students. However, students still depend on other sources, such as Batu Lintang Teachers College (BLTC) canteen and coffee-shops which are situated further from the campus area for the refreshment during breaks and bookstores in town for the supply of stationeries and text-books.

Then, with the initiative of some ITM staff, the co-operatives, Ko-operasi ITM Sarawak, as a non-profit voluntary organisation, established a store selling stationeries, text-books and other consumer goods.

It must be noted that, Ko-operasi ITM Sarawak is neither the branch nor the subsidiary of ko-operasi ITM, Berhad, Shah Alam. Having nothing to do with Ko-operasi ITM Berhad, Shah Alam, Ko-operasi ITM Sarawak is managed

by the staff of ITM, Sarawak Branch who are also the shareholders.

Currently, the total population of student of ITM Sarawak Branch are about 1,060, with 665 as full-time students and the rest are off-campus students. It is hope that with the revival of the co-operative, it will help to reduce some of the problems faced by the students.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENTS

- a. There are limited items available at the store. At the moment the store is selling stationeries and text-books only. Items such as newspapers, magazines, photo-copying and binding services are not available yet. Since there are only limited copies of books, newspapers and magazines available in the library, students prefer to buy from bookstores in town.
- b. Eventhough there is a canteen run by the staff which is however, now owned by the co-operative, it is mainly for the staff. The canteen is very small which is not even enough to accommodate the staff themselves. Thus, there is no canteen to serve the students.