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1st copy

SPEECH BY CIK MAWAN WAJID KHAN, PRESIDENT, Acc. No.  
SIGLAP WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION, AT THE GET-  
TOGETHER DINNER ORGANISED BY THE SIGLAP  
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION ON SATURDAY, 2 NOVEMBER  
1974 AT 4.00 P.M. AT THE SIGLAP COMMUNITY  
CENTRE

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I have great pleasure in extending to you a warm welcome to this Get-Together gathering organised by the Siglap Women's Association.

First, let me take this opportunity to wish all Muslims here this evening Selamat Hari Raya Aidil Fitri. As you are all aware, spiralling costs as a result of inflation has forced us to celebrate Hari Raya this year on a more moderate scale. Rising prices are a time for us to cut down on our expenditure and to do away with non-essentials. As housewives we can have a big role to play in the fight against inflation. Extravagance itself is self-defeating and anti-social as this will only help push prices up further. Housewives should exercise discipline in their day-to-day household budgeting.

Towards this end, housewives could perhaps form a consumers' association or club which may be able to fight unfair price fixing and profiteering. Such a consumers club could buy essential household necessities such as rice, soap, sugar, etc. directly from wholesalers instead of having to rely on our neighbourhood kedai. In fact, some of us may want to go one step further. It is very possible that a consumers cooperative could be formed in Siglap which would buy fresh vegetables and fruits directly from farmers. We would therefore lower the costs of feeding our families, eliminate the middleman while at the same time allowing our farmers a better price in these days when the costs of fertilisers and land rent are rising.

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