

Cuba's Non-agricultural Private Sector Continues to Grow



Havana, October 23 (RHC-Xinhua)-- In Cuba, the number of non-agricultural cooperatives has been growing due to the current economic reforms, the National Statistics Office said over the weekend.

According to the Office, the number of non-agricultural cooperatives had reached 440 at the end of September.

Among them, 156 are private rental homes and restaurants, while 135 are linked to trade and personal repair, 60 to construction and 49 to manufacturing.

Most of the non-agricultural cooperatives are set in Havana, with 265, while the west of the country dominates the rest.

Addressing Cuban Parliament, President Raul Castro said that non-agricultural cooperatives were a valid source of job creation, now accounting for over half a million workers.

According to official figures, at the end of the first half of 2017, 567,982 people worked for their own account in Cuba, representing 12 percent of the country's workforce.

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