

Don't say I control Najib, quips Rosmah

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Concerned over negative talk about her, prime minister's wife Rosmah Mansor has decided not to share her views on managing the country with her husband.

Instead, she said at the launch of the book 'Guide to Malaysia' in Kuala Lumpur today, she said that she now only shares her views with friends.

"Sometimes I tell my friend, I don't tell my husband (because then) you all will say: 'Ah, Rosmah is controlling Najib'.

"I may say something very right, but the fact is that the wife was talking to her husband, and maybe her husband says, 'Oh, you are very right, Rosmah' and they say, 'Ah, Rosmah is controlling Najib'.

"So now I only talk to my friends...So next time, don't say I control Najib," she said, laughing.

Rosmah is often accused of overstepping her bounds as wife of prime minister Najib Abdul Razak.

High and low-end tourists

Sharing her views today, Rosmah said that Malaysia is often guilty of poor marketing.

She said that the government is wary of spending money to target high-end tourists, who will bring in more returns, and pinching on "effective advertising".

"I was advising my husband – or telling my husband – that we should concentrate on high end tourists.

"High end tourists are a big hit, they don't look at the price. They look at the menu (but) they don't know how much it costs.

"But normal tourists, they'd say 'It's expensive, I think it will have a nasi goreng'," she said, adding that there is nothing wrong with travelling on a budget.

She said that even she and her husband are "low-end" tourists as Najib tells her to bring belacan when they travel.

"We are also very careful on how much we spend on food," she said.

Published by Leisure Guide Publishing Sdn Bhd, 'Guide to Malaysia' touches on Malaysia's history and socioeconomy, and is written by insiders, government officials and industry experts.

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