

'Why so touchy, I didn't say Rosmah is stupid'

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By Radzi Razak

Former minister Zaid Ibrahim questioned why Rosmah Mansor's aide insisted that he should accept Rosmah as a "smart and brave woman" when he wasn't aiming at her at all.

His blog post listed the characteristics that a prime minister's wife should have.

The ex-de facto law minister said he was not dismissing Rosmah's contribution to the country in any sense.

"Why is he (Rosmah's aide) raising all this? I never said that Rosmah is stupid.

"I only suggested in my blog that a prime minister's wife should not live lavishly. Why so touchy?" the former minister said at a press conference today.

Yesterday, Rosmah's aide, Rizal Mansor called Zaid a 'kangaroo' politician who has "forgotten his morals" and overlooked Rosmah's contributions to Malaysians in their moment of distress.

Rizal also reminded Zaid of the instrumental role Rosmah played in setting up Permata and helping the evacuation of Malaysian students from Egypt and Saudi Arabia two years ago.

Zaid's blog entry on May 18 titled 'The People's PM' listed the criteria necessary for a worthy prime minister.

He also detailed about the virtues of an ideal prime minister's wife who should be more connected to the suffering of the people who have to endure the increasing cost of living.

"We do not need a PM's wife who flaunts her wealth. There is no need to cause further pain to the rakyat, who have seen their spending power dip even lower in the wake of GST.

"We do not need to see our PM's wife travel the world in private jets while being draped with diamonds," he said.

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