

Rosmah offers int'l networking expertise

MalaysiaKini.com

Aug 22, 2015

Adrian Wong

If you are an entrepreneur looking to expand your business internationally, the prime minister's wife Rosmah Mansor may be of help to you.

This was the advice Rosmah gave to the participants at the Malaysian Chinese Women's Economic Convention, which was held at MCA headquarters, Kuala Lumpur today.

Rosmah believed that if an entrepreneur wishes to build a business, it should not focus only on the local market but also aim at international distribution.

"To look at the international market, you must have networking. That networking, I can help you out," she told the 200 participants, mostly women.

"If you say, 'Datin, I need a loan', I cannot get you (a loan). I am sure that there are places that (you can go) to get loans; go ahead. But the connecting point for business, networking, I will be able to help."

"It's not so much my ambition - I am getting old already - but I am willing to be with all of you to help you achieve your ambition," she said.

Echoing Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's proclamation that he is the "PM for all Malaysians", Rosmah stressed that she is also "the wife of the PM for all Malaysians" and "the mother for all".

However, she pointed out the internet is filled with allegations against her and vilification of her.

"Whatever you heard, whatever you read, don't believe. I am not anywhere near what you have read, what you have heard, on...blog, blog tu lah (that blog)," she said.

After a short pause, Rosmah went on saying, while smiling: "I think I am a nice woman. I think I am a good woman," to the applause of the audience.

Alibaba owner 'unassuming' in person

Commenting on today's topic, namely e-commerce, Rosmah revealed that she once met Jack Ma, the owner of e-commerce conglomerate Alibaba when she accompanied Najib to attend APEC in Beijing, China.

However, Rosmah admitted that she at first did not know the "unassuming man" in front of her was the billionaire.

"When I walked into the room, he was outside waiting for my husband. I thought he was just....I didn't know he was Alibaba (owner). So sorry.

"And then I entered, and my husband said Alibaba (owner) is waiting outside. (I said) that was him? I saw him just now. He is such a simple man - down to earth, very unassuming.' I think even though he has his billions, he is still a very simple, approachable, down-to-earth man.

"When I asked my husband, how can you allow a man who got billions waiting for you, he said, 'what to do. I need to see him in between meetings.' But he (Ma) never complained; he just came in and shook our hands. He was very humble and approachable," she said.

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Source: <http://www.malaysiakini.com/news/309512>