



'Rosmah' jibes greet Najib's budget speech
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's budget speech drew loud jeers and shouts of his wife Rosmah Mansor's name from the opposition.

It began when Najib announced plans to turn Malaysia into a shopping haven with a proposal to exempt some 300 items from import duties.

"Such goods are apparel, handbags, shoes, shampoo, suits..." said Najib, triggering a crescendo of murmuring from the floor.

When Najib announced that "hair dye" was on the list, the government and opposition benches could not hold back any longer and burst into laughter.

This was also punctuated with chants of "Rosmah" (*left*) from several members of the opposition bench.

Najib etched a grin following the din and slowed down the pace of his speech while he read out, "... undergarments, lingerie, nightwear, perfumes and mosquito netting."

His deliberate attempt to provoke his peers drew even more laughter.

Louder jeers were saved for later, when Najib announced a RM111 million allocation for the Permata programme, which is Rosmah's brainchild.

Mahfuz Omar (PAS-Pokok Sena) was heard loudly shouting "Rosmah! Rosmah!", to which Najib responded with yet another smile.

The budget speech has also resulted in high mentions on the premier's wife on micro-blogging site *Twitter*.

"Tax deduction for bags, hairspray, perfume... Najib's early Xmas present for Rosmah?" wrote Serdang MP Teo Nie Ching.

"This looks like Budget RM (Rosmah Mansor)," replied Bukit Bendera MP Liew Chin Tong.

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