

PM: Women's success in Malaysia due to govt's unbiased policies
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By MARTIN CARVALHO

PETALING JAYA: The success and achievements of women in the country are due to the non-gender bias and equal opportunities policies adopted by the Government, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

"The success that women enjoy in the country today is due to the Government's policy that has enabled women to show their skills and abilities," he when inaugurating the Malaysians Women's Foundation's 'The First Lady Awards' ceremony here Wednesday.

He added that the advancements made by women here were also due to the equal opportunities offered to them.

"I must admit that the achievements of women of Malaysia have surpassed that of their male counterparts," he said.

Najib also noted that the accomplishment of women here was a testament of Malaysia as a progressive Muslim nation, where women played a significant and contributory role in nation-building.

"The equal opportunities accorded to women here has led to Malaysia, a nation with a Muslim majority, to be amongst the most advanced Muslim nation," he said.

As "wives, mothers and daughters", Najib said women here must learn to strike the right balance between careers and family lives.

He said this was crucial as women also helped defend and strengthen society's moral values.

Among recipients of the award were Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali for her role as chairperson of the Welfare Club of the wives of Ministers and Deputy Ministers (Bakti).

Dr Siti Hasmah was presented the First Lady Perdana Award.

The First Lady Award for Outstanding Achievement was presented to Director of NAM Institute for the Empowerment of Women Tan Sri Dr Rafiah Salim, Datuk Nooryah Md Anwar, Prof Datuk Seri Dr Zaleha Kamaruddin and Colonel Dr Normah Samsuri.

The Lifetime Award was presented to Datuk Rosie Tan while the Outstanding Achievement Award was presented to Datin Paduka Mother A. Mangalam.

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