

19 JAN 1999

KIT SIANG PAYS 10 SEN WAGER HE LOST TO MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 19 (Bernama) -- Opposition leader Lim Kit Siang today waited his turn to greet Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and present him with a 10 sen coin for a wager which he lost over the timing of the general election.

Lim wished the prime minister "Selamat Hari Raya" at his open house at Sri Perdana before giving him the coin which Dr Mahathir accepted.

The two leaders laughed after exchanging jokes.

Yesterday, Lim, the DAP secretary-general, said in a statement that he would attend Dr Mahathir's Hari Raya open house to give the prime minister the 10-sen wager which he (Lim) lost when his prediction that the general election would be held last year did not materialise.

Lim was quoted as saying that Dr Mahathir had said last March that he was prepared to have a 10-sen wager with Lim that there would be no general election in the next six months.

He said Dr Mahathir's statement was in response to his (Lim's) statement last January that the general election might be called in 1998.

Lim was not the only one who had something to give Dr Mahathir. Many of the estimated 15,000 people who attended Dr Mahathir's open house also presented the prime minister with gifts, including flowers.

-- BERNAMA

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