

02/05/1999

PM visits liver donor and ex-Assemblyman

SINTOK, Sat. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali today spent some time to visit Wan Hafizam Wan Ismail who recently donated part of his liver to 14-month-old Mohd Afiq Ikmal Mohd Zaini.

Dr Mahathir gave Wan Hafizam, 23, some encouraging words and congratulated him for the sacrifice he made to help Mohd Afiq when they met at Wan Hafizam's grandparents home in Changlun.

Dr Mahathir also presented Wan Hafizam with a sash awarded by the Persatuan Wasilah Wan Kedah for being a "hero".

On April 3, Wan Hafizam underwent an operation at the Subang Jaya Medical Centre to donate part of his liver to save the life of Mohd Afiq.

He was discharged recently and is now on medical leave until May 31 but Mohd Afiq is still receiving treatment at the medical centre.

Wan Hafizam said he was delighted that the Prime Minister had visited him despite his busy schedule. "He congratulated me and we talked for a while," he added.

Wan Hafizam said he still needed to undergo follow-up checks fortnightly.

Dr Mahathir later visited former Tunjang Assemblyman Ismail Hanafi, 76, at the latter's home nearby. Ismail, a two-term Assemblyman, suffers from diabetes and kidney problems.

(END)