

18 JUL 2000

OPPOSITION GREETINGS FOR PM BRING CHEER TO HOUSE

KUALA LUMPUR, July 18 (Bernama) -- Greetings and good wishes for the welfare of the Prime Minister expressed by two opposition Members of Parliament brought cheer to the atmosphere in the Dewan Rakyat during Question Time. Among those in the gallery were school children.

Wan Nik Wan Yusof (PAS-Bachok) just before posing his question expressed greetings "specially for the Prime Minister."

Dr Mahathir before replying to the member, said, "I say thank you as the greetings were meant specially for me. I do not know why."

Kerk Kim Hock (DAP-Kota Melaka) also greeted the Prime Minister before posing his question and also wished Dr Mahathir "Happy Birthday."

"Welcome Right Honourable the Prime Minister and Happy Birthday to you. We opposition do not hate," he said before referring to the fourth question in the Order Paper.

Dr Mahathir responded by saying, "Thank You but today is not my birthday...Dec 20...please send cakes and so on. Thank You." This was followed by table thumping and laughter.

Before today's session, the Government Backbenchers Club hosted a birthday party for Dr Mahathir.

--BERNAMA

NZ AAM