

13 JULY 2001

AGONG SENDS NATIONAL DAY GREETINGS TO FRENCH PRESIDENT

KUALA LUMPUR, July 13 (Bernama) -- The Yang Di-Pertuan Agong, Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah and Raja Permasuri Agong Tuanku Siti Aishah have sent a congratulatory message to President Jacques Chirac on the occasion of France's National Day.

According to Wisma Putra, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad sent a similar message to his counterpart, Lionel Jospin.

The statement said that in his message, Dr Mahathir said he was truly encouraged by the present state of relations that exist between Malaysia and France and hoped it will be further strengthened in the coming years.

"I believe that it is our mutual interests to continue to work closely together in our efforts to address the multifarious international political and economic challenges that confront humanity today," he said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar also sent a message to French Foreign Affairs Minister Hubert Vedrine.

-- BERNAMA

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