

24/11/1998

BN Youth hotline deluged by calls

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Volunteers of Barisan Nasional Youth's 24-hour hotline have been deluged with hundreds of calls from both supporters of the Government and reformasi movement since last Thursday.

A party official said they had been receiving an average of 700 to 900 calls per day.

The movement had made available 10 hotline telephone numbers which are linked to Umno Youth's premises on the 37th floor of Menara Dato' Onn for Malaysians to voice their support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and their feelings towards foreign interference.

He said although the majority of callers were Malaysians who supported the Prime Minister's leadership, there were also some from supporters of the reformasi movement here.

"We noticed that those callers who support the Government and are against foreign interference normally call during the day while those reformasi supporters call after midnight.

"In addition, the reformasi callers are abusive and we are contemplating limiting the calling hours."

Besides the hotline numbers, the movement's counter which is located at Putra World Trade Centre here has also received encouraging response to its signature campaign.

Youth member Ruslan Mokhtar said since the campaign began, groups of people and individuals had been thronging to the counter to "put down their feelings in words" on the forms provided.

Despite the lack of space to write lengthy messages, most of them did so on the space available along the edge of the form.

"We will scrutinise the messages and select the most appropriately-worded ones for public display."

(END)