

11 DEC 1998

Youth-Hotline

BN YOUTH TO MAINTAIN HOTLINE FOR SILENT MAJORITY

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 11 (Bernama) -- The Barisan Nasional (BN) Youth will maintain the hotline that it set up for Malaysians to voice their opinions following US Vice-President Al Gore's outrageous statement on the so-called reform movement.

Acting Umno Youth chief Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said the silent majority could continue to call 03-4441199 to express their feelings on current issues.

"We will continue to man the hotline but only during office hours and not round-the-clock like before," he said today.

He told reporters this at the launching of an exhibition on patriotism and handing over of a 45m x 30m BN Youth banner, reputedly the world's biggest, at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

The banner reads: "The Barisan Nasional Youth fully supports the leadership of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the beloved Prime Minister of Malaysia."

"We have not figured out where to hang the banner because it is too big. It was supposed to be unfurled at the Premier Gathering last Oct 10 but the assembly was not allowed," he said.

BN Youth secretary Zulkifli Alwi said they were trying to get the banner displayed on the Umno building during the party's Special General Assembly this Sunday.

Gore drew strong protests from Malaysians for describing supporters of the reform movement as "the brave people of Malaysia" at an Apec business dinner here recently.

-- BERNAMA

MS YBY