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#### Union asked to stop criticising headmasters

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - The National Union of the Teaching Profession should stop criticising headmasters on the segregation of students issue and work on changing the image of national schools.

Umno Youth education bureau head Dr Adham Baba said today NUTP should instead focus on strengthening national schools and giving them a new image.

"All the while, most of the non-Bumiputra are not confident and have reservations about sending their children to national schools.

"Therefore, we must change its image, making it more flexible by allowing Chinese and Indian students to have classes for their mother tongue.

"At the same time, we urge NUTP to stop criticising the headmasters as we are of the opinion that the ministry has implemented good policies, but these may not be carried out by those at the lower level."

Adham said NUTP secretary-general Datuk N. Siva Subramaniam has raised a sensitive issue which should be addressed aptly.

Following this, he said NUTP should sit down with the ministry immediately and discuss ways to address these problems.

Meanwhile, DAP chairman Lim Kit Siang lauded Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's call for strict action to correct any misinterpretation or manipulation of Government's policy on education.

"This is because in the past week, there appeared to be the temptation and tendency in certain quarters to kill the messenger rather than examine the message.

"The NUTP and Siva should be commended for performing a national service in producing facts and figures to show the problem of segregation of races practised in some 200 secondary and primary schools so that the nation could focus on a remedy for the problem."

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