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Union proposes two-tier system of education

IPOH, Tues. - The National Union of Tamil School Teachers (NUTST) has proposed that the Government implement a two-tier education system - government schools and private education institutes.

Union president Shahul Hamid Mydin Shah said the Government should look into it seriously to keep abreast of globalisation.

"We should not segregate the current education system further into fully and partially-aided schools," he added.

At present, there are 370 partially-aided schools in the country, with a majority located in estates.

These schools squat on private land and do not receive financial aid from the Government to either replace old buildings or carry out renovations.

Some schools have no proper tables and chairs and the buildings are in a poor condition.

"Changes need to be made for teachers and students to teach and study in a more conducive environment."

Shahul Hamid was commenting on the statement by MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu on Saturday that the Government was planning to convert all Tamil schools into fully-aided schools.

Samy Vellu had also said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had asked Education Minister Tan Sri Musa Mohamad to review the status of partially-aided schools.

The same would also be done to Chinese schools.

Shahul Hamid hoped the Government would use the National Land Code or other laws on land matters to acquire the land on which the schools are located. Financial aid could then be channelled to the schools.

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