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MTUC-Controversy

RACIAL SEGREGATION: MTUC CALLS FOR AMICABLE SETTLEMENT

KUALA LUMPUR, March 26 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) today urged the Education Ministry to call up the National Union of the Teaching Profession (NUTP) leaders for discussion to achieve an amicable settlement to the issue of alleged racial segregation in schools.

Its president Senator Zainal Rampak in a statement here said: "Since Prime Minister (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) has already stated that the matter arose due to misunderstanding and a lack of communication between the parties concerned, it is only appropriate and fair that the issue be laid to rest".

Zainal was responding to the controversy between the Education Ministry and NUTP which he said may affect the nation-building process.

He also hoped that both parties would proceed to the nation-building process and not to waste valuable resources and energy on unproductive exercises such as finger-pointing.

Zainal added that courtesy, reasonableness and good conscience will prevail over personal differences in securing an amicable settlement of the protracted issue.

"Bearing in mind that the very future of our younger generation is being put through the works," he said.

On the other hand, Zainal said that "the MTUC believed the comments made by NUTP were done in good faith to genuinely safeguard the long-term interests of the younger generation."

"We (MTUC) see no malice in any of these actions and all unwarranted accusations and criticism against the NUTP leadership should be stopped forthwith," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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