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Union says sorry

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - The National Union of the Teaching Profession has apologised for the distress caused by its allegations of racial segregation in schools and has decided to stop pursuing the matter.

Secretary-general Datuk N. Siva Subramaniam said the union has decided to leave the matter to the Government and the police to investigate.

The decision was reached at a special meeting of the union's executive council tonight.

"It was a decision which was unanimously passed in response to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's advice not blow the issue out of proportion he told a Press conference after the meeting.

Siva Subramaniam said all the union's 12 branches were represented by their secretaries, adding that the meeting was also attended by president Tengku Habsah Tengku Petra and former president Gurnam Singh.

Also present were Cuepacs secretary-general Abdul Rahman Manan and deputy presidents Nordin Abdul Hamid and Abdul Rahim Mahat.

Expressing the union's apology for having created misunderstanding among some quarters, Siva Subramaniam said NUTP had no hidden agenda when raising the issue.

"NUTP is sensitive to the country's future and believes in the importance of education as the crux of the nation's development," he said.

Siva Subramaniam also said he and Tengku Habsah were called by the police today and their statements recorded.

"I have given them (police) the NUTP memorandum on the issue and other related documents to assist in their investigations."

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