

Is Muhyiddin still fit to be education minister?

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MP SPEAKS The police have arrested a parent for allegedly threatening SK Seri Pristana school principal Mohd Nasir Mohd Noor and he is reportedly to be charged with criminal intimidation.

The parent had lodged a police report against the principal and the school on July 30 for allegedly taking photographs of his 10-year-old daughter, a student at SK Seri Pristana.

The arrest has angered many members of the public who want to know when such unfairness and injustice will end.

The public are incensed that nothing has been done by either the Education Ministry or the police, especially on three issues.

NONEThe first issue involves the threats made against the whistleblower Guneswari Kelly who exposed the photographs of the 'canteen in the shower room'.

She received kidnap threats and lodged police report. So where is the police action on this?

The second issue involves the bullying of her daughter. It was widely reported last month that Guneswari's daughter, 9, was being bullied by both classmates and teachers at the school and became depressed.

The daughter, who had become distraught and embarrassed by the finger-pointing, was also ostracised by her classmates. She failed in her attempt to win back friends by giving away pencil and highlighter pens.

The inevitable result was that Guneswari decided to transfer her daughter to another school, so as to end the psychological cruelty and pain.

No action has been taken against the principal or teachers and the education minister continues to remain silent, even after I asked if he is powerless, heartless or both over the plight faced by the whistleblower and her daughter.

NONEThe third involves alleged intimidation of students by the principal.

On July 30, it was reported that a parent had lodged a police report against the principal for taking photographs of pupils who had allegedly reported him.

This is an act of bullying and intimidation which is unacceptable. Yet, the Education Ministry has not done anything, as if bullying and intimidation at school is a trivial issue.

If the police could act on the report lodged by the principal, surely they must be able to explain what has been done about the two parents' reports.

Have these been given the 'NFA' (No further action) treatment?

Let me remind the education minister that he can choose to remain silent on the issues at SK Seri Pristana, but can expect to be queried when Parliament meets.

Besides asking him whether he is powerless or heartless or both over the SK Seri Pristana issues, I shall also ask the prime minister - who has the prerogative to appoint ministers - if a minister who ignores acts of bullying and intimidation in schools is still fit to be the education minister.

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