

DAP now wants action against Seri Pristana HM for allegedly intimidating students
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BY RITA JONG

DAP MP M Kula Segaran today called for disciplinary action to be taken against SK Seri Pristana headmaster Mohamad Nasir Mohd Noor (pic) for allegedly intimidating pupils in the Selangor primary school.

The Ipoh Barat MP referred to media reports that said the headmaster had taken photographs of pupils whose parents had allegedly lodged complaints against him, saying this was unacceptable and warrants immediate action.

"Imagine the kind of psychological fear that the pupils have endured and will continue to suffer," he said in a statement in Kuala Lumpur today.

"In fact, five days ago, Guneswari Kelly, who had exposed the whole controversy revealed that her daughter was depressed as a result of being bullied by both her classmates and teachers since the photographs went viral," Kula Segaran added.

According to media reports, mechanic Kumancan Veeriah, also a parent of a pupil there, said Nasir had gone to the school, while he was on leave last week, and had taken photographs of some non-Muslim students whom he suspected had leaked the news that they were told to have their meals in the school changing room, which is near the toilets.

Kula Segaran said the Education Minister should address the issue that such intimidation, bullying or discrimination against the pupils cannot be tolerated.

He also said Selangor Umno liaison chief Datuk Seri Noh Omar's call yesterday to prosecute those responsible for uploading the photographs for sedition was ridiculous.

"The fact that the headmaster and the deputy education minister had apologised over the canteen incident shows that the headmaster had committed a grave mistake," he said.

"Why then should the parent be targeted? Just because the headmaster had lodged a police report alleging that the photographs had created tension? What tension was he talking about?"

He said instead of targeting whistleblowers like Guneswari Kelly, Noh should be commending her instead.

She uploaded on Facebook pictures of the Saujana Utama school students having their recess in a changing room because the school canteen was apparently under renovation during the current Ramadan fasting month.

The issue caused a furore and Deputy Education Minister II P Kamalanathan went to investigate two weeks ago but concluded it was a mistake and it had nothing to do with race or religion.

The canteen has since been reopened after work was completed to replace a door.

The headmaster was asked to take a week's leave last week to calm the situation. He has

since returned to work. - July 31, 2013.

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