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ZIN ASKS PRESS NOT TO SPECULATE

MELAKA, Jan 20 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Zin Abdul Ghani today asked the press to stop reports linking his post with the Umno supreme council's decision that Tan Sri Rahim Tamby Chik has the right to resume the post of Umno Youth head.

"I have repeatedly stated that the supreme council did not discuss the post of Melaka chief minister," he said.

The supreme council's decision on Rahim's position as Youth head had nothing to do with the chief minister's post and only certain papers were trying to make their own assumptions, he said.

He was speaking to reporters after presenting appointment letters to 132 chairmen and secretaries of village development and security committees in Melaka tengah district, here.

A daily yesterday reported Zin as expressing his willingness to step down as chief minister if directed to do so by the party leadership.

Zin said his statement on his willingness to step down if required by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was a general statement because the prime minister had the right to appoint as well as revoke an appointment. -- Bernama