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Shahidan not decided on contesting Youth chief post

KANGAR, Wed. - Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim said today he has not decided on whether to vie for the Umno Youth chief post vacated by Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

"I have not given a thought to any available posts in next year's party election.

"This includes defending the supreme council seat which I had won in the previous election," he said, adding that he was more concerned about the party's continued stability.

"My priority now is to help convince others that party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad should not be challenged," he added.

Shahidan, who is also State Barisan Nasional and Umno chairman, was speaking to reporters after chairing the weekly State Executive Council meeting.

He also said the Umno supreme council meeting next Monday may establish how tape recordings of its Sept 3 meeting, which expelled Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim from the party, have been made available to the public.

"Proceedings at Umno supreme council meetings are party secrets and the distribution of the tape recordings of the deliberations is most inappropriate," he added.

On the other hand, Shahidan said the leak was a blessing in disguise as listeners would realise that these meetings were conducted in an open and democratic manner.

"Everybody can express his or her view during our meetings.

"The public will be able to hear Anwar banging on the table to emphasise a point.

"Such insolence may not be permissible at Pas or DAP meetings," he added.

(END)