

Mohd Zin: Umno has no intention of taking over transport minister post from MCA

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PETALING JAYA: An Umno supreme council member has accused a financial daily of trying to pit the party against the MCA over the post of Transport Minister.

"Umno has never discussed or expressed any intention to take over the post," said supreme council member Datuk Seri Mohd Zin Mohamed.

"It is unbecoming of such a prestigious business daily to report such false news," he said, referring to an article in *The Edge* on Tuesday, which reported Umno would take over the Transport Ministry from MCA after the general election.

The post is currently held by MCA secretary-general Datuk Seri Kong Cho Ha.

The paper speculated that Umno would be given the post because a leading businessman linked to the party had purportedly been pressuring Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak to consider the "bulk of money" involved in projects under the ministry.

Rubbishing such talks, Mohd Zin said "even a big firm linked to a crony of Opposition Leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had secured projects from the ministry".

MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Chua Soi Lek has denied MCA's involvement in Beta.

Umno Online and pro-Barisan Nasional bloggers lambasted the financial daily's owner and former CEO of Phileo Allied Bhd, Datuk Tong Kooi Hong, for releasing these reports.

He is said to be associated with Anwar.

Meanwhile, an Umno insider who declined to be named, said: "When open tenders are called, the best bidders get the project. Even firms linked to the Opposition have won bids."

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