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# Merdeka documents in time capsule for 2057

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Two original documents on the country's Merdeka proclamation will be kept in a capsule at the National Archives and would be opened only in 2057, said Culture, Arts and Heritage Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim.

- He said the documents were the proclamation of the country's independence which was read by first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Al-Haj in 1957 and the other was the one read by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at the 50th Merdeka Eve celebration.

"There are historical documents which will be kept in the capsule and would be opened and read again," he told reporters at a function organised by the ministry yesterday to fete media members for their contributions in ensuring the success of the 50th

Merdeka celebrations.

Rais said that the capsule would be handed to the Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Sidek Hassan before sending it to the National Archives for safekeeping.

He said the ministry planned to organise a mobile exhibition on news and pictures of events during the 50th Merdeka celebrations at shopping complexes nationwide.

On the RM773mil allocation to the ministry as proposed in the 2008 Budget, he said it would be utilised, among others, for cultural and heritage development programmes and research projects.

Rais said the ministry would meet with the management of Keretapi Tanah Melayu Bhd and the operator of the Hotel Majestic next week for discussion to conserve the buildings.

- Bernama