

RTM to air Tunku interview

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Recorded in 1985 but not aired

KUALA LUMPUR: RTM will air an exclusive interview with Malaysia's first Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra for the first time tomorrow.

The interview, which will be aired on TV1 at 8.30pm on the *Galeria Perdana Khas* programme, had been kept in Angkasapuri's archives for 22 years.

Information Minister Datuk Seri Zainuddin Maidin said the interview was recorded in 1985, about five years before his death.

He said the interview had never been broadcast by any television station previously.

"It is a story of our nation's independence. To our younger generation seeking inspiration from our first Prime Minister, this is the programme to watch," he said at a get-together with the 2006 Short Film Award winners at Angkasapuri here yesterday.

Zainuddin also said RTM needed to revamp its image into something more "cool" and current.

"All this while, RTM has been viewed as a dull network with nothing captivating to watch," he said.

"This has to change. RTM needs a facelift to adapt to the changing attitude and mindset of the general viewers, who are becoming more trendy, current, and modern," he said.

Over the past year, RTM has introduced more vibrant programmes in its two channels.

However, according to Zainuddin, that was not enough because the film industry was fast changing.

"It's evolution of taste and interest. We need to adapt in order to fit in, as well as to increase ratings," he said.