

'We still won't buy British if...'

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THE Malaysian Government will still not buy British goods "if we can help it," Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

"But the people are buying British goods," said the Prime Minister in response to a question on relations between between Malaysia and Britain.

He said the value of the pound had fallen vis-a-vis the Malaysian ringgit.

Therefore, British goods have become extremely competitive and it was very difficult "for

us not to buy..."

On whether there was any indication that there was a change of attitude on the part of the British, Dr Mahathir said: "Only some slight indication, that's all."

Dr Mahathir was speaking at a Press conference after taking part in the Asia-Pacific region at which he was lead speaker.

Asked if he found the mini summit (CHOGRM) here useful, Dr Mahathir said: "This is my first experience of

a Commonwealth regional meeting. It is useful in terms of my education." (laughter)

On whether he would attend the next CHOGRM meeting, he said that would depend on the situation then. If it was worthwhile, he would go.

"I hate crowds. I find that I can't get myself through when there is a big crowd. Everybody is looking at everybody else, not looking at me at all." (laughter)