

# Dr M urges Malaysians to buy local products

**CYBERJAYA:** While tax policies can be amended to help local industries, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad urged the rakyat to emulate Japanese and Koreans and be proud of Malaysian-made goods.

The Prime Minister said unlike the Japanese and Koreans who prefer local products to foreign goods,

Malaysians were to the contrary.

"Malaysians look down on their own achievements.

"If you prefer local products, the quality of the products will improve, given time.

"If you don't encourage local products but buy imported goods, then there is no opportunity for

Malaysian-made products to achieve standards required for international markets," he said at a dialogue with the Malaysian Rail Industry Corporation yesterday.

At the event, one participant had asked why foreign players for large rail projects take part in such a development without any paid

import duty while local players have to pay the Sales and Service Tax.

Dr Mahathir, in reply, said the government would consider changing its tax policy to help boost the production and manufacturing of local goods.

He acknowledged that the cur-

rent policy leaned more towards import than export.

"We are not even serving our own country.

"If there is a need to change the government policy (we will do so).

"This may involve replanning the taxation, particularly involving industries," he said.