



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK



Monthly News letter | May 2026

Handing-Taking of Greenhouse Solar Dryer at Gasabama, Kawang Gewog under Thimphu Dzongkhag

15 May 2026 | Thimphu:

The Greenhouse Solar Dryer funded through GoI-PTA project was handed over to Bio Bhutan Private Limited by the Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC) at Gasabama, Kawang Gewog under Thimphu Dzongkhag. This project was implemented by DAMC in coordination with Department of Energy, MoENR, with technical support from the National Post Harvest Center. The handing-taking ceremony was attended by the First Secretary (Development Cooperation & Energy) and HOC of Embassy of India, Thimphu; the Director of DAMC; the Chief Engineer of Innovation and Management Division, MoENR; and technical officials from National Post Harvest Center and Bio Bhutan Private Limited. The Greenhouse Solar Dryer aims to reduce post-harvest losses of agricultural produce, improve product quality and diversification, and encourage market-oriented production for domestic and export markets through drying technology.

For Fiscal Year 2025-26, a total of six Greenhouse Solar Dryers were installed by the Department in Chukha, Paro, Samtse, Samdrup Jongkhar, and Thimphu. This Greenhouse Solar Dryer will be primarily utilized for drying fruits & vegetables, herbs, spices, medicinal plants, and other important crops. This drying facility will also serve as a center for demonstration and training purposes, pilot testing and innovation of dried products.



Bhutanese Agri-Food Products Enter the Singapore Market



16 May 2026 | Shangri-La, 22 Orange Grove Road, Singapore

For the first time, a Mini Bhutan Market promoting Bhutanese agri-food products was held in Singapore, bringing together business owners, entrepreneurs, buyers, and friends of Bhutan who admire and value the country's unique offerings. A total of 11 Bhutanese agri-food entrepreneurs showcased their products and pitched their business ideas to Singaporean participants, exploring opportunities for trade and long-term business linkages. The Bhutanese delegation was led by H.E. the Minister for Agriculture

and Livestock, with close coordination and support from partners in Singapore, JICA Bhutan, and the IFC-World Bank Group. Over the coming days, a series of B2B meetings will further connect Bhutanese entrepreneurs with Singaporean buyers and market players. During the opening of the event, H.E. the Minister shared that Bhutan offers the world something special, a clean, natural, and high-quality food products grown in one of the last pristine environments on Earth.

As Bhutan transforms its agriculture from subsistence farming to a market-oriented system, the country remains committed to producing food that values people, health, and the environment. H.E. also emphasized that Bhutan and Singapore can build a meaningful partnership based not only on trade, but on trust, sustainability, and shared values.

The Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives

(DAMC) extends its sincere appreciation to JICA Bhutan, the IFC/World Bank Group, and especially the partners in Singapore who made this maiden event possible. DAMC remains committed to continuing such promotional initiatives and strengthening business partnerships for Bhutanese agri-food products in international markets

Bhutan Agri-Food Trade & Investment Forum-BATIF (BATIF) 2.0 officially kicked off today

21 May 2026|Thimphu:

Bhutan Agri-Food Trade & Investment Forum-BATIF (BATIF) 2.0 officially kicked off today at Pemako, Thimphu, bringing together the Royal Government of Bhutan, agribusiness leaders, international investors, development finance institutions, financial institutions, and technical partners to transform priority opportunities into implementable collaborations.

The session was graced by the Prime Minister, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Asian Development Bank (ADB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO),

ambassador of European Union (EU), Assistant Director-General (ADG) and Mr. Bhargav Dasgupta, Vice-President.

The forum marks an important platform for fostering collaboration, promoting sustainable agricultural transformation, and strengthening Bhutan's engagement with global investment networks.

The forum seeks to boost investment momentum, attract firm commitments and convert these efforts into the signing of letters of intent or memoranda of understanding.



Global Conscious Food Systems Summit



Mark your calendars!

The Royal Government of Bhutan and the Conscious Food Systems Alliance @undp_cofsa, along with the UN Development Programme @undp and partners, are hosting the first Global Conscious Food Systems Summit in Bhutan, from 31 August – 4 September 2026.

A global moment to reimagine food systems through culture, values, and consciousness.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Lyonchheon Tshering Tobgay and Hon'ble Minister Younten Phuntsho visited Chirub Farms



26 May 2026 | Samrang | Samdrup Jongkhar

Hon'ble Prime Minister Lyonchhen Tshering Tobgay and Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Lyonpo Younten Phuntsho visited Chirub Commercial Farms under Pemathang and Samrang Gewogs in Samdrup Jongkhar. The visit highlighted the farm's ongoing efforts in promoting commercial agriculture through integrated production systems and market-oriented farming practices. Discussions focused on the development of the Pemathang and Samrang farm areas, implementation modalities, and business models aimed at enhancing productivity, strengthening value chains, and improving market access for agricultural products.

The initiative is expected to contribute significantly towards food security, employment generation, and rural economic development. The visit also reaffirmed the Royal Government's commitment to transforming agriculture into a sustainable and economically viable sector through strategic

investments and partnerships. The delegation was further briefed on the project's planned implementation pathway, funding support, and long-term vision to establish Chirub Commercial Farms as a model for large-scale commercial agriculture in the country.



NDIS: Building a Smart and Digitally Connected Dairy Sector for Bhutan



The National Dairy Development Centre under the Department of Livestock is currently conducting the User Acceptance Testing (UAT) of the upcoming National Dairy Information System (NDIS), marking a significant effort to modernize the dairy sector and build a smarter, more connected, and data driven dairy ecosystem for Bhutan. Once operational, the system is expected to fundamentally transform how dairy farming, breeding management, technical services, milk quality monitoring, and dairy infrastructure are managed across the country. For the first time, dairy farms and animals will be assigned unique digital identities, enabling accurate traceability and efficient monitoring of different production and breeding phases such as lactation, pregnancy, dry period, and milk productivity. Services such as Bovine Artificial Insemination, production and breeding pha LN2 supply management, veterinary support,

and technical interventions can then be delivered in a more efficient, transparent, and timely manner to farming communities nationwide.

The platform is also expected to become one of the most important national databases for the dairy sector by creating a digital inventory of dairy farms, milk collection centres, and related dairy infrastructures across the country along with geocoordinates. In addition, the integration of a digital milk testing platform will support the implementation of the milk pricing system envisioned under the 13th Five Year Plan by ensuring proper recording and monitoring of milk quality parameters nationwide. Reliable milk production statistics generated through the system will further strengthen planning, policy formulation, investment decisions and future dairy development strategies in Bhutan.

More importantly, the initiative

represents a bold step towards making dairy farming more modern, intelligent, and attractive for the younger generation. At a time when the country is increasingly challenged by an ageing farming population, the NDIS demonstrates how technology can reposition dairy farming into a professional and innovation driven sector capable of attracting educated and aspiring youth, thus sending a strong message that agriculture and livestock farming in Bhutan are steadily evolving into digitally empowered sectors with opportunities for entrepreneurship, innovation, and smart farming practices. What makes the initiative even more inspiring is the strong collaboration and youth driven innovation behind the system. The NDIS is being developed by aspiring IT professionals of Chilliquet Technology, one of the emerging and reputed IT firms involved in developing several important digital platforms in the country.

“Brand Bhutan” and “Taste of Bhutan” Promotion in Thailand through Pop-Up Market & B2B Linkages

27-30 May | Villa Market, Nanglingche, Thailand:

For the first time, Bhutanese Agri-Entrepreneurs who were awarded the “Brand Bhutan” marks (Grown in Bhutan & Made in Bhutan) along with the recipients of the Bhutan Seal Awards successfully showcased and promoted their products at the Bhutanese Product Pop-up Market & B2B networking event held at the Villa Market in Bangkok. The event was attended by the Founder & President of Villa Market, Mr. Surapong Pooanakhom and the Dy. Chief of Mission of RBE, Bangkok. The program was jointly coordinated by the Department of Trade, DAMC, RBE Bangkok and JICA, Bhutan. From Thailand, the Bhutan–Thai Chamber of Commerce (BHTCC), Live Twice and Villa Market Team helped to coordinate the event. The CSI Market from Bhutan aggregated all CSI products and represented other agri-entrepreneurs and their products.



In addition, a “Taste of Bhutan” Networking Event was also conducted to allow Thai consumers to taste the Bhutanese products and one-one buying and B2B linkages. In this maiden effort, Bhutanese team engaged directly with Thai consumers, buyers, distributors, and business partners to assess market demand, gather consumer feedback, undertake market surveys of products available in the Thai market, and explore potential business-to-business collaborations. The participation also enabled Bhutanese stakeholders to learn from international best practices in packaging, merchandising, retail presentation, and trade show booth design through exposure at THAIFEX – ANUGA Asia 2026. It is an important step towards enhancing Bhutan’s export and expanding market opportunities for Bhutanese agricultural and CSI products in regional and international markets.



NDIS: Building a Smart and Digitally Connected Dairy Sector for Bhutan

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The system is being built in close collaboration with dairy experts and young officers from the Department of Livestock, including Specialists from dairy centres, Regional Livestock Development Centre, the National Highland Development Centre, and headquarters. The active support of GovTech Agency has further strengthened the initiative by bringing together passionate IT professionals and livestock experts under a shared vision. The NDIS is expected to be implemented nationwide from the new fiscal year 2026-2027.

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TASHI DELEK