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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
Ministry of Agriculture & Forests  
Tashichhodzong, Thimphu : Bhutan



སྐྱོན་པོ།

MINISTER

DAMC/MIRD-01/22

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## NOTIFICATION

In order to ensure availability, stabilize price and curb illegal import, the government has approved a time bound import of “safe, green chillies” into the country between January and March 2022.

This will be done through the Food Corporation of Bhutan Limited (FCBL).

For information, some of the batches of chillies the BAFRA tested in recent times were found to have chemical content within the permissible limit. While this gives us the confidence to go ahead, BAFRA will continue to test all consignments of incoming chillies, based on which the import will be considered.

Following the cost analysis, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests, in consultation with FCBL, has decided that the FCBL will sell the green chillies to all the vendors at the rates varying from Nu 61 to Nu 75 per kg, depending on the transportation costs across the dzongkhags.

Meanwhile, despite the concerted efforts of the Ministry and the Local Governments, the chilli production could not meet the current domestic market. The in-country winter chili production meets only about 20 percent of the total consumer requirements.

While our farmers have the option to sell their chillies at the available market rate, should there be challenges, the FCBL will buy the local chillies at the Incentive Scheme Price (ISP) of Nu 100 per kg, and market it accordingly.

The Ministry would like to reiterate that this is a time bound initiative to meet the chilli shortage and price hike. Should the chillies imported by the FCBL exceed the permissible chemical limit, the import will be immediately ceased. The relevant government agencies will monitor the price in the market.

For effective delivery of service, a standard operating procedure for import and distribution of chillies is developed for compliance by all.

Yeshey Penjor