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ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN

Ministry of Agriculture & Forests

Tashichhodzong, Thimphu: Bhutan



སློབ་པོ།

MINISTER

MoAF/DAMC-MDD/05/21-22/70

27<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2022

**NOTIFICATION FOR GINGER BUY-BACK BY THE GOVERNMENT**

This notification is to all concerned Ginger farmers producing ginger at commercial scale in the dzongkhags of Samtse, Chukha, Sarpang, Tsirang, Dagana, Pemagatshel, Zhemgang, Samdrupjongkhar & Trashigang, that the government has decided to buy the ginger produce of the year 2021, from the farmers within the month of March 2022 (1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>). This decision is as per the approval of the Lhengye Zhungtshog held on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, considering very low price in the ginger export market and other related challenges both outside and inside the country in the pandemic era.

The Food Corporation of Bhutan Limited (FCBL) shall implement the buying, storing and marketing of the product. The ginger will be graded (specifications to be announced by FCBL) into three quality categories in this buy-back scheme. FCBL shall make upfront payment to the farmers at the rate of **Nu.30/- per kg for grade A, Nu.25/- per kg for grade B, and Nu.20/- per kg for grade C**, at the collection/aggregation centers. Aggregation/collection centers shall be determined by FCBL in consultation with respective Gewog Authorities and announced to the farmers through respective Gewog Administration machineries.

Dzongkhag and Gewog Authorities are requested to facilitate to the FCBL in finding storage facilities, in other logistics and in determining the ginger grades, as well as in ensuring that the farmers receive the payments genuinely. BAFRA officials in respective Dzongkhags shall also facilitate to FCBL and farmers in determining the ginger quality for the three grades.

DAMC and DAOs supported by respective Dzongkhag Administrations shall provide support to FCBL in marketing the ginger after buy-back, including in selling to local processing firms and to the vegetable vendors.

Farmers as always have the option to sell their ginger on their own, should they be fetching higher price than the government offered rates. Government/FCBL's ginger buyback is a one-time intervention in the interest of saving our farmers from going into loss during the pandemic. After 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, government can facilitate marketing the product at the prevailing market rates but **No buying** the product at any cost.

For strict adherence and implementation by all stakeholders, please.

(Yeshey Penjor)  
Minister



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MINISTER

Copy to:

1. Dasho Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Thimphu for kind information and appraisal to HPM as and when necessary.
2. Dasho Secretary, MoAF, Thimphu- for kind information and guidance.
3. Dasho Dzongdas of Samtse, Chukha, Sarpang, Tsirang, Dagana, Pemagatshel, Zhemgang, Samdrupjongkhar & Trashigang for necessary support to FCBL & ginger farmers.
4. Director General, BAFRA, MoAF for information and necessary support.
5. Director, DAMC/DoA, MoAF- for necessary follow up actions.
6. CEO, FCBL for immediate implementation of the buy-back scheme.