

Government injects billion Baht!, use of "rubber" boom in the country as New Year gifts.

The Natural Rubber Policy Commission has passed all 4 measures in mega project with a billion baht. Usage - support of rubber in the country in the hope of stabilizing the rubber prices as a New Year gift to rubber farmers – accelerated presentation at the cabinet meeting to approve. According to Mr. Grisada added that a meeting with tire producers both domestic and international will take place next week to persuade them buy up more Thai rubber directly from Farmers Institution. Separately, the Local Government also welcome the measures of construction all roads in the village in order to get rid of tire stocks help rubber farmers.



The Natural Rubber Policy Committee meeting No.1/2561, chaired by Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Mr. Grisada Boonrach said that the committee's latest meeting's resolution agreed to approve the four projects and will be presented at the cabinet meeting to acknowledge next week. The project consists of

1. Strengthen Rubber Plantation 2018 and 2019 Project

The aims is to alleviate the cost of living of rubber farmers, target is for the rubber farmers who have rubber plantations in the area have the right to open the rubber tapping and registered with Rubber Authority of Thailand (RAOT) by the time of November 14, 2018. There are 990,000 rubber plantation owners, 304,000 rubber tappers are eligible for the scheme, 1.3 million people in total, which cover 9.4 millions rai of rubber plantations. Under the scheme, those registered with RAOT will be entitled to grant 1,800 baht per rai, not exceeding 15 rai each in support rubber farmer. The sum will be divided into 1,100 baht per rai each for rubber plantation owners and 700 baht per rai each for the tapper of total budget 1.75 billion baht. The Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) and RAOT will be responsible for providing a 17.5 billion baht budget to support the scheme.



## 2. One Village One Kilometer Project

The aim is to encourage the Local Government to use fresh latex to construct the Para Rubber Soil Cement Road in 75,032 villages : each one Kilometer across the country. This will allow the fresh latex to be absorbed from the market in large quantities and will make rubber prices more stable in the long run. One Village One Kilometer Project appointed a project management committee to implement the project by Local Government and RAOT. According to the project plan, road are set to repaired/improved in 75,032 villages with latex as composition in road construction with the basic layer thickness 15 centimeters and width 6 meters. We expect to be able to increase consumption of rubber more in the country. The rubber is used in the road construction as the amount of fresh latex 1.4 million tons or proportion of concentrate latex is equal 7.2 thousand tons, valued at approximately 53 billion baht, totaling 9.23 billion by using the accumulated budget of Local Administrative Organization.



### 3. Management of Rubber Price Stabilization from Farmer Institution Project

Department of Cooperative Promotion provides support to cooperatives and potential farmers. The availability of a source of selling rubber from farmers group members and gather to distribute rubber for export. The preliminary survey currently found that there is a cooperative group at least 8 groups already exists. One of them is namely Organization Rubber Replanting Aid Fund Ban Bo, Bor Thong District, Chonburi province, this is a prototype Agricultural Institute that can push the export of rubber products to international successfully. The Cooperative Promotion Department has selected a rubber cooperative that is strong and interested in exporting rubber products to join the project. Credit line is granted from the Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives (BAAC) with THB 5,000 million.

### 4. Reduce rubber plantation area to replace other crops project

The aim is to reduce the risk of rubber price slump and increase revenue/income. It also creates a sustainable career option for rubber farmers. Therefore, we have appointed a special task force to oversee this closely, namely the Department of Agricultural Extension (DOAE), Department of Agriculture (DOA) and Rubber Authority of Thailand (RAOT).



"All these four projects together use the new budget with the old budget of over one billion baht. We have urged all Departments concerned to seriously speed up the work, if there are any obstacles, immediately inform to avoid delays. Moreover, we will accelerate the concrete objective as soon as possible, and sincerely hope that this achievement will be a gift to the rubber farmers before New Year. So next week, we will invite both domestic and international tire companies to be together and discuss the issue of increasing rubber purchase from farmers and what will be needed to get help and support from the government? "

Source: Thansettakij Newspaper on 29 November 2018.