



SECRETARY

MoF/PPD/Notification/40(1)/135

August 18, 2023

## NOTIFICATION

### **Subject: Moratorium on the import of vehicles**

In keeping with the Lhengye Zhungtshog directive No.C-3/150/2023/1743 dated August 16, 2023 to ensure a minimum foreign currency reserve that is adequate to meet the cost of not less than one year's essential import is maintained, the Ministry of Finance hereby issues the Notification for the continuation of the moratorium on the import of vehicles for another six months, from 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2023 to 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2024 with the following exceptions:

1. Utility vehicles, heavy earthmoving machines, and agriculture machineries shall continue to be exempted from the moratorium. For the purpose of clarity, the utility vehicles costing less than Nu.1,500,000 equivalent to USD20,000 (whichever is less) shall be allowed.
2. Vehicles for the use and promotion of tourism shall continue to be exempted from this moratorium. The terms and conditions, and type/number of vehicles to avail the exemption from this moratorium, shall be submitted by the Department of Tourism.
3. Public transportation such as taxis and buses, both fossil and electric shall continue to be exempted from this moratorium.

Since the moratorium on the import of vehicles has adversely impacted the business continuity of the authorized vehicle dealers, the authorized vehicle dealers will be granted the following relief measures to tide over the period of this moratorium in consultation with the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan:

1. Deferment of the loan repayment of authorised vehicle dealers till the moratorium is lifted, and
2. Explore the possibility of providing soft working capital at concessional rate of interest to meet the business operating expenses till the moratorium is lifted.

The Ministry of Finance and the Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan are working closely to assess how the moratorium can be lifted gradually and will notify the general public soon.



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Ministry of Finance  
Royal Government of Bhutan

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This Notification shall supersede all earlier Notifications on the moratorium of import of vehicles.

**(Leki Wangmo)**  
Acting Secretary

**For kind information:**

1. Dasho Gyalpoi Zimpon, Office of Gyalpoi Zimpon, Tashichho Dzong.

**Copy to:**

1. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Gyalyong Tshokhang, Thimphu.
2. Hon'ble Ministers, All Ministries.
3. Dasho Governor, Royal Monetary Authority of Bhutan, Thimphu.
4. Auditor General, Royal Audit Authority, Thimphu.
5. Head of Constitutional Bodies, Thimphu.
6. Cabinet Secretary, Thimphu.
7. Dzongdags, Thrompons, and Gups.
8. Head of Autonomous Bodies.
9. President of the BCCI, Thimphu.
10. CEO of the DHI, Thimphu.
11. Head of the SoEs and President of the FIAB.