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**To:** All business entities

Dear Dasho/Madam/ Sir,

On behalf of colleagues in the Ministry of Economic Affairs, I would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to you and your employees for the unflinching support and commitment to the Royal Government and the Ministry in our fight against COVID 19. I also wish to pass on the gratitude of my colleagues and our highest appreciation for your dedication and hard work in these trying times. Please be assured that the Ministry is cognizant of all the difficulties facing your business because of the pandemic and is committed to finding solutions in consideration of the situation at large, for which we seek your continued support.

So far, our country has managed to keep COVID situation under control. However, with sporadic and increasing flareups of COVID cases in the country including cases in remote corners of the country, the situation is increasingly becoming unpredictable by the day. This can undo the safety achieved till now through the hard work of His Majesty the Druk Gyalpo and frontline workers. Therefore, the Ministry requests you to immediately review and enhance the implementation of COVID protocols to ensure safe and continuous operation of businesses. You are also requested to conform to all COVID safety protocol not only within the factory or commercial space of operations but also outside the space of operation that include transportation, logistics, management of external personnel and the review of the entire supply and distribution chain to minimize or contain the risk of infection. Any symptomatic staff/workers must be tested besides organized and mandated regular tests.

This request is being made to ensure that an economically debilitating third national lockdown will not be required if all businesses adhere and stringently enforce COVID protocols. We also do not wish to fix accountability for the lapses, and hope willful lapses on your part does not happen.

I am confident that with your support we can continue to ensure safety of our people and the economy from harms of the COVID virus.

Warm regards.

  
Tenzin Lyonpo

**Copies:** South and East Task forces, DTF, RTIOs

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