

Thailand to Buy 100,000 Tons of Rubber Stocks to Lift Price

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Nov. 16 — Thailand, the world largest rubber producer and exporter, plans to spend 10 billion baht to build up inventories of natural rubber by 100,000 metric tons in a move to shore up prices, according to the Office of the Rubber Replanting Aid Fund.

The plan is subject to cabinet approval, Wit Pratuckchai, the office's director-general, said by phone today. The government has also encouraged farmers to delay tapping from now to January to cut supply, he said.

The Thai government will sign an agreement today to sell 180,000 tons of rubber at \$3.5 a kilogram to a state enterprise of China, said Wit, who is joining a trip with Pornsak Jarernprasert, deputy farm minister, to China.

(Source: Bloomberg)