



## **SAN JUAN CITY EXPANDS P33/KG RICE SALE TO INCLUDE 5KG PACKS DUE**

The Food Security Emergency on Rice program, launched by the National Government, has been met with overwhelming success in San Juan City, prompting the City Government of San Juan to expand the initiative. Due to the high demand on the first day of selling, with the initial 1,000 sacks sold out, Mayor Francis Zamora announced that, beginning Wednesday, 5-kilogram packs of rice will also be available for purchase at P165 per pack, or still at P33 per kilogram to give more options and flexibility to San Juan constituents.

San Juaneños who wish to buy either the 5kg packs or the 50kg sacks (priced at P1,650 per sack) must first register at the City Hall lobby to ensure proper supply management and prevent shortages. Those who wish to buy 10 or 15 kilos can buy 2 or 3 packages of 5 kilos rice. Preregistration for Batch 2 of the rice selling begins today, ensuring that those who sign up will have access to the next round of affordable rice distribution.

On February 24, 2025, the first day of rice distribution, all 1,000 sacks of 50kg NFA rice sold out, demonstrating the massive demand for this initiative. As a result, the City Government has initiated a second round of preregistration to fairly allocate supply. Due to strong community interest, Mayor Zamora has ordered preregistration for both 50kg sacks and 5kg packs to accommodate more buyers efficiently.

Beginning tomorrow, the 5kg rice packs will be available for sale at the San Juan City Hall. The city government will monitor demand for both rice package sizes and adjust its procurement from Food Terminal Inc. (FTI) accordingly. This strategy ensures that while there is no oversupply, those who register will have the opportunity to buy their allocated rice without unnecessary shortages.

Mayor Zamora reiterated San Juan City's commitment to leading the way in providing affordable rice to its residents. "We were the first LGU to begin selling rice at P33 per kilogram, and we remain steadfast in ensuring that no San Juaneño goes hungry," he said.

The Department of Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. was present during the launch of the program on February 24 and praised the city government's efforts in supporting the national rice emergency initiative. "Napakaimportante ng ating ginagawa upang mapagaan ang gastos ng bawat pamilya. Sana ay patuloy natin itong suportahan," he stated.