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| Department | Marketing & Consumer Policy Bureau |  | Director Joo Won-cheol (044-201-2211) |
|  | Marketing Policy Division |  | Deputy Director Han Tae-hee (044-201-2223) |
| **Minister Chung Hwang-keun of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs attended the completion ceremony of smart agricultural products processing center (APC) in Maninsan Nonghyup** |

Minister Chung Hwang-keun of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs attended the completion ceremony of smart agricultural products processing center (APC) in Maninsan Nonghyup located in Geumsan-gun in Chungcheongnam-do in the morning of November 3 (Thursday) and encouraged people who worked for building the center.

The APC of Maninsan Nonghyup expects 50 billion won's of sales this year, by selecting∙packaging 130 items of vegetables into 620 types of products and releasing them to large and online distributors, in cooperation with 31 Nonghyups nationwide, since 2004 beginning with Geumsan Perilla leaf.

Maninsan Nonghyup extended the building and strengthened the cold chain system and automation facility, rebuilding itself as smart agricultural products processing center thanks to the government's support. It has built data-based management system to address labor shortage caused by aging population and double the capacity of commercialization.

The government will expedite digitalization of the distribution sector as it opened the era of precision∙science-based agriculture through smart farms in the production sector. The government is providing its active support for scaling up∙specializing the agricultural products processing by organizing producers and spreading smart agricultural products processing centers.

Also, the government will make efforts to build effective and competitive distribution structure by enhancing the transaction system of agricultural wholesale markets and by establishing online transaction center to meet the demands of the newly changing distribution environment.

Minister Chung Hwang-keun of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs said, "New innovation in digital distribution starts with smart agricultural products processing centers." "The government will support the establishment of smart agricultural products processing centers while investing in technology development and human resources for digital distribution, added the Minister.