## ALL ODISHA RICE MILLERS ASSOCIATION

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Dated 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2015.

To, The Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Food Supplies & Consumer Welfare Dept, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar-751001.

Dear Sir,

Sub: Payment of TC on Paddy & Rice and approval of distance by District Collector thereof.

This is in continuation to the discussions held with your honour during review meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2015. The millers are not able to claim transportation charges for paddy and rice from the procuring agencies and huge amount is blocked. On the other hand, the procurement agencies too are not able to claim it from FCI for want of sufficient certification of distance.

The above problem was settled earlier in the year 2010 vide OSCSC Letter No.17761 Dt.9.11.2010. Abstract from the said letter is reproduced below:-

"In the preparatory procurement meeting held on 06.10.2010 at Sambalpur, District Managers OSCSC Ltd., expressed difficulties in obtaining distance certificate from R & B Department/R.D. Department etc. It is therefore suggested that, the District Manager should ascertain the actual road distance of PPC / Mandi / PACS to mills and RRC to mills from the field functionaries and obtain the approval of the distance so ascertained, from Collector.

The millers shall be paid transportation charges for this approved distance on the actual quantity transported."

On the complaint from AORMA about not payment of dues to millers, the matter was again clarified in OSCSC Letter No.17110 Dt. 21.9.2011 by stating that — "1. The dues of millers for the KMS 2009-10 & earlier period not yet paid are to be found out miller wise & KMS wise and the reasons for nonpayment of the dues be ascertained. It may be for instance, due to want of approved distance from paddy procurement center to mills, mills to RRC for which transportation charges has not been paid. It is the responsibility of CSO cum District manager to ascertain the actual distance as per instruction of head office communicated vide letter No.17761 dt. 9.11.2010 & settle the bills."

Sir, in order to find out a solution to the present stand still position, Government instructions issued during current KMS 2014-15 vide FSCW Letter No.1353 Dt.20.1.2015 needs to be modified suitably in line with the earlier experience and decisions taken in this matter as reproduced above.

Further, your honour may kindly appreciate that most of the rice mills are functioning for decades together and distance from these mills to the majority of the centers might already be available with the district office duly approved by the Collector which may be used as it is. Distance assessment for some mills as well for some new centers may be only required.

We therefore, most humbly suggest that the required information about truckable distance may be certified by the concerned Collector after ascertaining it from the field functionaries through Civil Supply Officer as was the practice earlier. The certified distance countersigned by the Collector may be the basis for calculation and payment of transport charges on paddy and rice by all State Procuring Agencies as well as by the Food Corporation of India.

Enclo: Oscsc Letters as above.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-. (Santosh Kr. Agrawal), Chairman.