## ALL ODISHA RICE MILLERS ASSOCIATION

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Chairman: Santosh Kr. Agrawal (094330 11631) email: <a href="mailto:chairman.aorma@gmail.com">chairman.aorma@gmail.com</a>President: Shyamlal Agarwal (94370 51951)Secretary: Santosh Kr. Sonthalia(94370 28933)Visit us at www.aorma.inemail: <a href="mailto:secretary.aorma@gmail.com">secretary.aorma@gmail.com</a>

Dated 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2015.

To, The Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Respected Sir,

## Sub: Prayer for an appointment.

A meeting of district coordinators of our Association was held recently and it was decided to appraise your honour about the present scenario of rice milling industry and problems faced by it in proper functioning. A brief back ground necessitating the meeting is attached hereto for your ready reference.

I therefore, most humbly request your honour to kindly grant us an appointment *during next week or as may be convenient to your honour* to appraise various problems and suggestions for smooth functioning of the Food Policy in our State. A line of confirmation in advance to the undersigned over *Mob No.094330-11631* or email address <u>chairman.aorma@gmail.com</u> will be highly appreciated as the office bearers will be attending from various parts of our State.

Enclo: As above.

Yours faithfully,

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

<u>Copy to:</u>
1) Commissioner-cum-Secretary, FS&CW Dept, Odisha.
2) Managing Director, Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation.

## Brief back ground for the meeting with Hon'ble Chief Secretary, Odisha.

The State Civil Supplies Corporation (OSCSC) is unable to receive rice stocks in most of the districts and yet the millers are un-necessarily blamed for the delay.

Millers are not properly reimbursed with the charges incurred by them in providing various services while there is no genuine intent to clear dues of millers in a time bound manner by the OSCSC.

Custody maintenance charges are released for only 2 to 3 months while millers have to maintain their godowns for the entire year. In contrast, every single grain of paddy is *subjected to recovery of insurance premium from the millers for one full year irrespective of actual duration* of holding and that too on the paddy which does not belong to the millers. Milling charges are also not revised since more than a decade though there is many fold increase in the input cost.

Supply of FAQ paddy is far from reality. There is practically no system in vogue for quality checking of paddy. Millers are under immense pressure to accept what ever quality comes to the Mandi. Unfortunately, decision taken by your honour for CAP Storage at the start of KMS 2014-15 could not materialize.

Your honour may kindly appreciate that *Millers have delivered an all time record quantity of rice to FCI inspite of financial loss* due to higher labour and other costs which are never reimbursed. Yet the millers are saddled with more and more load without any concern for their well being and feasibility.

The rice milling industry is struggling to survive and a time has come to restrict its activities to only periodical collection of FAQ paddy from CAP or other storage points of OSCSC based on acceptance of resultant rice in a time bound manner. Lifting from Mandi and storage of paddy may be done by OSCSC Ltd in the interest of resolving many contentious issues with the millers.

Sir, we can clearly visualize a sense of indifferent attitude in the OSCSC management towards the millers which was never seen in past. An atmosphere of distrust is prevailing which needs to be addressed in the interest of successful implementation of any Food Policy. *Good health of the Rice Milling Industry is equally important to keep Farmers in good health.* 

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