

ALL ODISHA RICE MILLERS ASSOCIATION

S-3/36 , Sec-A, Zone-B, Mancheswar Indl. Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010

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Most Urgent.

Dated 9th February, 2016.

To,
Sh. Yogendra Tripathi, IAS,
Chairman and Managing Director,
Food Corporation of India,
16-20, Barakhamba Lane,
New Delhi-110001.

Sir,

Sub: Total dislocation in delivery of CMR to FCI.

Most respectfully we would like to bring to your kind notice that delivery of CMR to FCI is not taking place since about last one month due to summarily rejection of rice lots by depot staff on the ground of under weight of newly introduced 580 gram Jute Bags by GOI.

Your honour may kindly appreciate that Jute Bags are supplied to the millers by the Odisha State Civil Supplies Corporation after purchasing from DGS&D approved Jute Mills and millers have no role whatsoever in the quality aspect of such “BIS” marked gunny bags. *An atmosphere of panic and uncertainty is prevailing amongst the millers apprehending more and more rejection of rice lots.*

We may submit here that new gunny bags with standard weight of 665 grams were in use earlier and Jute mills were required to maintain the weight upto (+) 8% and (-) 6% while rice was accepted by FCI upto the lower weight limit of 565 grams i.e. upto (-) 15% of the standard weight due to moisture variation. But the newly introduced 580 gram standard weight jute bags are accepted only upto 545 grams i.e. upto (-) 6% as against earlier (-) 15%. *We strongly feel that there is misinterpretation of HO Circular No. 4(1)Misc. Gunnies dt.21.1.2016 since the revised BIS specifications IS 16186:2014 for 580 gram gunny with tolerance (+) 8% and (-) 6% might be applicable for the Jute mills and not for the millers while delivering rice as was the case with earlier 665 gram jute bags.*

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Sir, we very much appreciate the need of quality gunny bags for packing of food grains but it is for the DGS&D and Government to ensure supply of gunny as per prescribed standard. ***Our role is just limited to packing and delivery of rice in Government supplied gunny bags. There is no logic in rejecting and returning our rice lots when there is no quality complaint in the quality of rice itself. Pending any improvement or study in the quality of gunny bags, acceptance of rice must continue in the Government supplied gunny bags without any interruption.***

Timely rice delivery is directly related to smooth paddy procurement and ***any dislocation in rice delivery is likely to affect paddy procurement leading to distress sale of paddy.*** Possibility of quality deterioration in rice can not be ruled out at the belated stage resulting in out-right rejection of stocks by FCI.

We therefore, most humbly request your honour to kindly issue suitable instruction to General Manager, FCI, Odisha Region to continue with acceptance of CMR in Government supplied BIS marked New Jute Gunny bags and oblige.

Copy to:

- 1) Union Food Secretary, GOI, New Delhi.
- 2) Principal Secretary, FS&CW Dept, Odisha.
- 3) General Manager, FCI, Bhubaneswar.

Yours faithfully,

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