

ALL ODISHA RICE MILLERS ASSOCIATION

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

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URGENT MATTER.

Dated 25th September, 2014.

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

Dear Sir,

Sub: Serious Problem due to modification in Uniform Specification of Rice for ensuing KMS 2014-15.

Most respectfully we would like to bring to your kind notice that in view of the recent modification in *Uniform Specification of Rice* for ensuing KMS 2014-15 by Government of India vide Letter No.8-1/2014-S&I Dt.1.9.14, *serious operational problem is likely to arise in delivery of Rice.*

The Maximum Limit of Moisture content has been kept un-changed at 14% for KMS 2014-15 but the foot note allowing rice procurement with moisture content upto a maximum limit of 15% with value cut is missing. This implies that consignment of *rice beyond 14% will be rejected and have to be taken back by the millers even though the miller agree for proportionate rebate* on moisture beyond 14% as was prevalent in current as well as in earlier years. Relevant portion of rice specifications for KMS 13-14 and 14-15 are enclosed for your ready reference.

Sir, in order to limit the *moisture content exactly at 14%*, the miller has to maintain average moisture of 13% to 13.5% during milling to accommodate climatic variations and difference in moisture reading of different Moisture Meters which may vary from each other. Apart from this, *milling of paddy with low moisture will result in more percentage of Broken Rice and will adversely affect the Rice Out-Turn Ratio.* Millers are already suffering from high handedness of the labourers and depot in charge. *This will further aggravate the position as loaded trucks may be returned on the pretext of even slightest variation beyond 14%.*

There has been lot of resentment amongst the millers all over the country and representations have been sent to GOI by different State Governments for allowing moisture norms as per earlier years. A news report dated 13.9.2014 published in Business Standard is enclosed for your ready reference.

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Two delegates from our State Association will be meeting Hon'ble Union Food Minister at New Delhi on 29th Sep,2014 along with delegates from other States through Federation of All India Rice Millers Association to appraise this serious problem. Your honour may kindly appreciate that any loss in Rice Out-turn ratio is equal to wastage of food grains and also loss to the Nation.

In view of the seriousness of the matter, ***we most humbly request your honour to kindly send a suitable representation from our State Government to the Government of India for restoration of the procedure of accepting rice with moisture beyond 14% against rebate upto maximum of 15% as was prevailing during earlier years*** for ensuing Khariff Marketing Season 2014-15 to ensure smooth procurement operations.

Encl: Copy of News Report and Specifications.

Yours faithfully,

Copy to: 1) Managing Director, Oscsc Ltd, Bbsr.
2) General Manager, FCI, Odisha Region.

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