

# ALL ORISSA RICE MILLERS ASSOCIATION

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

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## PRESS RELEASE.

A General Body Meeting of the Association was held today morning at Hotel Kesari, Bhubaneswar to discuss the current procurement operations. The millers were of the opinion that the present paddy procurement scenario is not in a good shape. There is an atmosphere of uncertainty and panic everywhere due to non-availability of adequate storage space for acceptance of milled rice. The millers are aggrieved for non-consideration by the appropriate authorities mainly on the following points:-

1. Non-increment in Levy rice rate while about Rs. 162/- is paid more for the same rice to State Agencies.
2. In spite of utilization of all our infrastructures for paddy procurement, we are not adequately reimbursed for the services rendered by us.
3. Millers are blamed for almost every thing even if they do not have any role therein.
4. FCI is neither able to procure paddy itself by citing various reasons nor it help other agencies to procure. In fact, none of the millers are willing to work with FCI for reasons best known to all.
5. Due to un-cleaned as well as poor quality of paddy, we are getting the actual yield of rice @65% but have to deliver @68% from paddy delivered to us. Results of test milling by Senior Scientists and Govt. Officials showing lower rice yields are not implemented.
6. Judgement of Hon'ble Orissa High Court is not honored and millers are forced to deliver 1% more rice from URS Paddy.
7. Stringent rules are framed day-by-day making it more and more difficult on the part of innocent and genuine farmer to sale paddy in a dignified way.

8. While Govt. is unable to handle the pressure of huge arrival of paddy as well as acceptance of milled rice from millers, it is quite unfortunate that there is no clear policy or guidelines for free trading in Rice/Paddy by Millers which could have helped a lot in solving the problem of “distress sale”.
9. This year, PACS will be paid a hefty sum of about Rs.30/- per quintal by OSCSC for simply getting involved. But what about increase in our milling charges which remains constant at Rs.25/- for years together? Our claim for payment of additional transport charges at Flat Rate of Rs.15/- per quintal upto 15 K.M. over and above the milling charges of Rs.25/- is not yet considered.

In view of above, the members have unanimously resolved that:-

***“The millers will restrict their activities to simply milling of FAQ paddy being delivered to them at mill point and the resultant rice also lifted from the mill point by the procurement agencies with their own arrangements. Millers agree to accept the reduced rate of milling charges, if any for non-transportation of Paddy/Rice upto 8 km as may be applicable. The millers assure full co-operation in speedy milling of paddy to the best of their ability.”***

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