

ALL ODISHA RICE MILLERS ASSOCIATION

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

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Dated 9th June, 2019.

To,
Shri Narendra Modi,
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
South Block, Raisina Hill,
New Delhi-110011.

Sir,

Sub: Humble request for considering Government help to the Rice Mills being suffered badly in the devastating cyclonic storm "FANI".

Most respectfully, I would like to bring to your kind notice that the entire rice milling industry in Puri District and some units in the adjoining districts of Khurda, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack and Kendrapara districts have suffered very badly under the impact of the devastating cyclone "FANI" which lashed Odisha Coast near Puri on 3rd May, 2019.

Sir, the magnitude of destruction is beyond imagination. No words can explain the suffering of our rice miller friends who are registered as MSME units and are engaged in processing of Rice to meet the requirement of Food Grains under National Food Security Act (NFSA) as well as other welfare schemes of Government of India. They are in acute distress looking for wholehearted support from all quarters. In this context, I most humbly pray your honour to kindly consider our few requests as follows:-

- 1) ***Re-habilitation Package***: There is total collapse of the infrastructure and everything has been turned into rubbles. One month has already passed since the cyclone and it may take another two months or more to somehow reconstruct the whole things in phases. There will be heavy financial loss due to non-operation of the unit and maintaining the huge work force in this labour oriented industry for such a long period. In order to mitigate the financial loss to some extent, we pray for considering a ***"Re-habilitation Package" from the Government in shape of one time financial grant of Rs.30 lakhs to each of the affected units.*** In addition, an interest free loan of Rs.15 lakhs may be sanctioned for one year.

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- 2) **Concession on Electricity**: Apart from early restoration of electric lines, it may be considered for waiver of entire demand charges for the first three months and restricting the demand charges on actuals irrespective of the monthly contract demand for the next six months as the industry will not be able to function at its rated capacity.
- 3) **Settlement of Insurance claims**: All the Insurance Companies may kindly be directed to settle the claims on war footing within next 15 to 20 days by creating special task force depending upon gravity and volume of each claim. **Release of adhoc amount** needs to be considered pending finalization of the claims as an interim relief. This is the most vital aspect without which the re-structuring work cannot take place.
- 4) **Deferment of Bank Loans**: In view of the non-operation of the units for several months for re-structuring process, deferment of existing Bank Loan Repayments by six months may kindly be considered.
- 5) **Creation of a corpus fund**: A National Corpus Fund may be created to facilitate instant financial help to the MSME sector in case of damages suffered during a Natural Calamity.

Sir, we hope that your honour will be kind enough to consider our requests sympathetically. And for which act of kindness, we shall remain ever grateful.

Yours faithfully,

Bhubaneswar, 9th June, 2019.


(Santosh Kr. Agrawal),
Chairman.

Copy to:-

- 1) Shri Dharmendra Pradhan,
Hon'ble Minister,
Steel, Petroleum & Natural Gas,
Government of India.
- 2) Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi,
Hon'ble Minister of State,
Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries and MSME,
Government of India.



(All Odisha Rice Millers Association)