



सत्यमेव जयते

VIKRAMJIT SINGH SAHNEY

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
(RAJYA SABHA)

October 24, 2024

Respected Sh. Narendra Modi Ji,

I am writing to bring immediate attention of your goodself on the pressing issue of slow paddy procurement in Punjab, which has become a significant concern for our farmers.

As you must be aware about the difficulties faced by our farmers as the Rice Millers had categorically refused to collect paddy due to lack of storage space primarily due to non lifting by FCI . Fortunately, after the government's intervention 3000 out of the total 5000 rice millers have come up to procure the paddy.

Punjab has been the largest contributor of paddy to the central pool for decades, ensuring the nation's food security. This year, the hardworking farmers of Punjab have produced 180 lakh metric tons of paddy, yet unfortunately, 120 lakh metric tons from last year is still stored in warehouses.

This backlog is largely due to the government's ban on the export of non-basmati rice, which has resulted in an accumulation of paddy. Additionally, the government did not procure a significant amount of rice last year for the Public Distribution System, further contributing to the surplus in warehouses.

As far as this year's procurement is concerned, approximately 38 lakh metric tons of paddy has arrived in the state's markets, with 34.5 lakh metric tons procured by the state government. However, only 10 Lakh Metric tons have been lifted, leading to a significant slowdown in the procurement process. The central government is supposed to lift the already procured grains and last year's grains kept in the warehouses which is getting significantly delayed and it is hindering the procurement process.

Contd.... 2

Given that the official procurement process began on October 1, the ongoing challenges have left our farmers in a dire situation. It has been 24 days since the procurement started, yet farmers are still facing severe difficulties in selling their paddy. In all this Poor Farmers are becoming the collateral damage and suffering the most.

I kindly urge your goodself to intervene and expedite the resolution of this issue. It is crucial to ensure that our farmers receive the support they need during this critical time. Swift action from the central government can help restore normalcy and alleviate the distress faced by our agricultural community.

With Warmest Regards



Dr. Vikramjit Singh Sahney
Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha (Punjab)

Sh. Narendra Modi Ji
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

cc. Sh. Pralhad Joshi
Hon'ble Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution