

Regarding problems being faced by rice millers in Punjab due to delay in Paddy procurement in the State- Laid

SHRI AMRINDER SINGH RAJA WARRING (LUDHIANA): I am giving this notice on the concerns and plight of rice millers and farmers of Punjab and to demand immediate arrangements of Specials to transport rice from Punjab. We are approaching March end and rice mills are still waiting to deliver their rice due to the insufficient availability of space. As per the established systems, Punjab is supposed to complete rice procurement by 31 March each year. This year, as per the available records, only about 35-37% of the rice could have been delivered till date and approximately more than 60% of rice is yet to be delivered by the millers of Punjab. I demand immediate provisions of Specials to transport rice from Punjab so that enough space is made available to the rice millers to deliver the pending rice of the ongoing season i.e. 2024-25. If Government of India does not listen to this demand of Specials for Punjab, then rice millers will be forced to bear great financial losses as the next paddy season is about to start while ongoing procurement cycle is incomplete. This delay will force Punjab into a crisis in the coming year 2025-26 if appropriate arrangements are not made.