

AGRICULTURAL FOOD PRODUCTS IN ANDHRA PRADESH



Management

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Agriculture plays an essential role in the process of economic development of less developed countries like India. Besides providing food to nation, agriculture releases labour, provides saving, contributes to market of industrial goods and earns foreign exchange. Agricultural development is an integral part of overall economic development. In India, agriculture was the main source of national income and occupation at the time of Independence. Agriculture and allied activities contributed nearly 50 per cent to India's national income. Around 72 per cent of total working population was engaged in agriculture. These confirm that Indian economy was a backward and agricultural based economy at the time of Independence. After 66 year of Independence, the share of agriculture in total national income declined from 50 per cent in 1950 to 18 per cent in 2007- 08. But even today more than 60 per cent of workforce is engaged in agriculture. In spite of this, it is also an important feature of agriculture that is to be noted that growth of other sectors and overall economy depends on the performance of agriculture to a considerable extent. Because of these reasons agriculture continues to be the dominant sector in Indian Economy.

Since independence India has made much progress in agriculture. Indian agriculture, which grew at the rate of about 1 per cent per annum during the fifty years before Independence, has grown at the rate of about 2.6 per cent per annum in the post-Independence era. Expansion of area was the main source of growth in the period of fifties and sixties after that the contribution of increased land area under agricultural production has declined over time and increase in productivity became the main source of growth in agricultural production. Another important facet of progress in agriculture is its success in eradicating its dependence on imported food grains¹.

Indian agriculture has progressed not only in output and yield terms but the structural changes have also contributed. All these developments in Indian agriculture are contributed by a series of steps initiated by Indian Government. Land reforms, inauguration of Agricultural Price Commission (APC) with objective to ensure remunerative prices to producers, new agricultural strategy, investment in research and extension services, provision of credit facilities, and improving rural infrastructure are some of these steps.

In order to achieve the goal of self sufficiency in agriculture, new agricultural strategy has been initiated in 1966-67. The fundamental of this strategy is the application of science and technology for increasing yield per hectare. This strategy, known as New Agricultural Strategy or Green Revolution, is based on the extension of high yielding varieties responsive to heavy doses of fertilizers and the package of improved practices in selected areas with assured rainfall or irrigation facilities.

RAINFALL AND SEASONAL CONDITIONS

The seasonal conditions during the year 2010-11 on the whole were Normal. During the South-West monsoon period, the State received excess rainfall of 29.8 per cent against normal. However, in North-East Monsoon Rainfall was excess by 48.2 per cent. Excess rainfall was witnessed during the South-West and North-East monsoon period. As such, 30.5 per cent excess rainfall was received in the year when compared to the normal. During the year 2010-11an average

rainfall of 1227.0 mm was recorded as against the normal of 940.1 mm thus showing an excess of 30.5% over Normal rainfall². Above mentioned information shows in the table 1.

Table 1
Season-wise Rainfall in Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	Season	Normal	2010-11 (Actual)	% dev. Over normal	Status
1	South West Monsoon (June to September)	624.1	809.9	29.8	Excess
2	North-East Monsoon (October to December)	224.3	332.5	48.2	Excess
3	Winter Period (January to February)	13.9	13.5	-2.9	Normal
4	Hot Weather period (March to May)	77.8	71.1	-8.6	Normal
Total		940.1	1227.0	30.5	Excess

Source: Season and Crop Report Andhra Pradesh 2010-11

The Gross area sown in the State during 2010-11 is 145.12 lakh hectares as against 125.61 lakh hectares in 2009-10, recording, an increase of 15.53 per cent. The net area sown in the State also increased to 112.88 lakh hectares (including 1.02 lakh hectares under fish ponds) in 2010-11 as against 100.85 lakh hectares (including 0.93 lakh hectares under fish ponds) in 2009-10, thereby showing, an increase of 11.93 per cent.

The total production of food grains in the State was estimated at 203.14 lakh tonnes in 2010-11 as against 155.99 lakh tonnes in 2009-10, showing an increase of 30.23 per cent. The favorable seasonal conditions and sufficient rainfall prevailing in the State are largely responsible for increase in production of food grains. The Oil seeds production during 2010-11 was 30.7 lakh tonnes as against 24.18 lakh tonnes during 2009-10, showing an increase of 27.13 per cent³.

The production of Maize was estimated at 39.53 lakh tonnes during 2010-11 as against 27.61 lakh tonnes in 2009-10, showing an increase by 43.17 per cent due to increase of average yield per hectare during 2010-11.

The average yield rate of Maize was 5317 Kgs/hect. in 2010-11 as against 3528 Kgs/hect. in 2009-10, showing an increase of 50.71 per cent. The area, productivity and production of Maize from 2006-2007 to 2010-11 are given in the table 2.

Table 2
Area, Productivity and Production of Ragi

Years	Area in lakh hectares			Yield in kgs/hects.			Production in lakh tones		
	Kharif	Rabi	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
2006-07	5.35	1.90	7.25	2398	6189	3391	12.85	11.77	24.62
2007-08	5.19	2.67	7.86	4581	6590	5263	23.77	17.58	41.35
2008-09	4.98	3.54	8.52	3148	7299	4874	15.67	25.85	41.52
2009-10	5.02	2.81	7.83	1986	6281	3528	9.96	17.65	27.61
2010-11	4.40	3.04	7.44	3729	7614	5317	16.39	23.14	39.53

Source : Season and Crop Report Andhra Pradesh 2010-11

Minor Millets

Korra, Varagu, Samai and other Minor millets come under minor millets sparsely grown in the State. These crops are mainly sown under rainfed condition the area under these minor millets accounted for about 0.21 per cent of the total cropped area in the State during 2010-11. Visakhapatnam, Kurnool, an Vizianagaram districts are together accounted for 90.53 per cent of the total are under minor millets in the state during 2010-11. The area under minor Millets was 0.30 lakh hect. in 2010-11 as against 0.25 lakh hect. in 2009-2010, showing increase of 20 per cent.

The production of Minor Millets (Korra, Varagu, Samai and Other Minor Millets) was 0.28 lakh Tonnes in 2010-11 as against 0.13 lakh tonnes in 2009-10, showing an increase of 115.38, per cent, due to increase in area during 2010-11. Area and production of total Minor Millets from 2006-2007 to 2010-11 are shown in the Table 3.

Table 3
Area, Productivity and Production of Minor Millets

Years	Area in lakh hectares			Production in lakh tones		
	Kharif	Rabi	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
2006-07	0.34	N	0.34	0.17	N	0.17
2007-08	0.35	N	0.35	0.22	N	0.22
2008-09	0.30	N	0.30	0.16	N	0.16
2009-10	0.24	0.01	0.25	0.12	0.01	0.13
2010-11	0.28	0.02	0.30	0.27	0.02	0.28

Source: Season and Crop Report Andhra Pradesh 2010-11

PULSES

Pulses comprise Redgram, Bengalgram, Greengram, Blackgram, Horsegram Cowgram and other pulses. The area under these pulses accounted for about 14.68 per cent of the total cropped area in the State during 2010-11. The area under pulses was 21.31 lakh hectares during 2010-11 as against 19.33.lakh hect. in 2009-10; which shows an increase of 10.24 per cent.

Out of 14.40 lakh tonnes of production of pulses in the State during 2010-11 Bengalgram Redgram, Blackgram and Green-gram accounted for 7.19, 2.65, 2.53 and 1.66 lakh tonnes respectively and they contribute 97.43 per cent of the total pulses production. The production of pulses was 14.40 lakh tonnes dur-

ing 2010-11 as against 14.32 lakh tonnes in 2009-2010, showing an increase of 0.56 per cent. The increase in production is due to increase in the area of cultivation under pulses. The area and production of pulses from 2006-2007 to 2010-11 are shown in the table 4.

Table 4
Area, Productivity and Production of Pulses

Years	Area in lakh hectares			Production in lakh tones		
	Kharif	Rabi	Total	Kharif	Rabi	Total
2006-07	7.45	12.39	19.84	2.68	10.79	13.47
2007-08	8.59	12.54	21.13	4.97	12.00	16.97
2008-09	7.29	10.42	17.71	3.38	11.10	14.48
2009-10	7.55	11.78	19.33	2.40	11.92	14.32
2010-11	9.89	11.42	21.31	4.35	10.05	14.40

Source: Season and Crop Report Andhra Pradesh 2010-11

Conclusion:

Agricultural development is an integral part of overall economic development. In India, agriculture was the main source of national income and main occupation of our country. Agriculture and allied activities contributed nearly 50 per cent to India's national income. Around 72 per cent of total working population was engaged in agriculture. Because NABARD, Regional Rural Bank (RRBs), Co-operative Banks and Commercial banks provide loans (Crap loans, agricultural loans) to formers, rural antisense, marginal farmers with nominal interest. In Andhra Pradesh Government Schemes implemented i.e. Indiarra Jala Prabha exclusively for S.C. and ST and weaker sections living in villages, Central and State Governments initiative steps to be taken agriculture / allied activities are well develop.

REFERENCE

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