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Research Paper

Trends in area, production, productivity and export of rice from India

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Paper History : Received : 22.09.2011; Revised : 20.11.2011; Accepted : 20.01.2012 **ABSTRACT :** Rice cultivation is the principal activity and source of income for millions of households around the globe, and several countries of Asia and Africa are highly dependent on rice as a source of foreign exchange earnings and government revenue. Worldwide, India stands first in rice area and second in rice production, after China. Within the country, rice occupies one-quarter of the total cropped area. Rice is one of the important cereal food crops of India. It continues to play a vital role in the national food grain supply. India must concentrate on export of rice especially Basmati rice from country, since rice export constitutes considerable share in the national exports. Though India is the second largest producer of rice in the world after China, India is facing stiff competition in the world markets for the export of rice. The export of Basmati rice was highest in the year 2009-2010 which was recorded as 2016.76 thousand tones which value was 10889.13 Rs. Crore. The export of non-Basmati rice was reported to be highest in the year 2007-08 *i.e.* 5286.08 thousand tones.

KEY WORDS : Rice, Basmati rice, Non-Basmati rice, Export

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INTRODUCTION

Rice cultivation is the principal activity and source of income for millions of households around the globe and several countries of Asia and Africa are highly dependent on rice as a source of foreign exchange earnings and government revenue.

Production is geographically concentrated in Western and Eastern Asia. Asia is the biggest rice producer, accounting for 90 per cent of the world's production and consumption of rice. China and India, which account for more than one-third of global population supply over half of the world's rice. Brazil is the most important non-Asian producer, followed by the United States. Italy ranks first in Europe.

The world's major rice-producing countries - including the two most populous nations, China and India - have emphasized the importance of continuing to develop new rice varieties to guarantee Asia's food security and support the region's economic development.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The emphasis of this study was on reviewing the trend in area, production, productivity and export of rice from India. Therefore, the study is based on the secondary data *i.e.* published data in the form of various reports published by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, India. The other requisite data were also collected from the various publications and websites of APEDA, DGCI and S etc. and Devarajah and Nataraju (2010).

RESULTS AND **D**ATA ANALYSIS

The results of the present study as well as relevant discussions have been presented under following sub heads:

World rice production :

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the U.N., 80 per cent of the world rice production comes from 7 countries. The figures in Table 1 show