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"World Food System — A Contribution from Europe"

Regulated Markets and Rural Development in India

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Abstract

The increased production and heavily arrivals of marketed surplus especially food grains forced to set up new modern markets to maintain buffer stock at national level. Further to increase in income of market committees and to incur expenditure on various development works in rural areas, there is need of incentives for producers to bring maximum production of their farm surpluses in regulated markets. Therefore, the investigation was carried out with the objective to examine the availability of amenities in regulated markets, incentives for producers and contribution of regulated markets in rural development in Haryana state of Indian Union.

The study reveals that total market arrivals of agricultural commodities increased up to 12.26 million tonnes during the year 2006–07 due to vast network of 105 principal yards, 178 sub-yards and 142 purchasing centres in the state. The capacity of storages, cold storages and coversheds also registered significant increase and it reached up to 4.9 lakh tonnes. While number of villages and area served per regulated market declined as result of increase in number of regulated markets. The number of regulated markets and sub-vards, capacity of storages and coversheds exhibited positive growth rate indicating health sign of market infrastructure development. Most of markets possessed all types of amenities as per norms of Bureau of Indian Standards, except parking place, medical facilities and sundry shops. The Marketing Board has made investment on various development activities like establishment of grain and vegetable markets, renovation of old markets, construction of rural roads, repair of rural and municipal roads for easy accessibility for transport of farm produce. April Mandis were also set up for fruits and vegetables to benefit both producers and consumers through elimination of market intermediaries. The Board has also introduced various schemes like compensation to victims hurt during agricultural operation, awards for innovative farmers, Krishak Uphar Yojana, bonus of sale of produce through cooperating marketing society and agri-business information. The producers can enhance their farm income through disposal of surplus farm produce in regulated markets. Ultimately the income generated to marketing board will be spent on various development projects in rural areas

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