OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE OF REGULATED MARKETS IN MADURAI DISTRICT

Article Particulars

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Abstract

India being an agriculture country with a large number of small and marginal farmers, the Agriculture produces marketing committee plays a significant role in marketing of agriculture produce. Indian farmers carry out their agricultural activities efficiently and market their hard laboured output at best possible prices through regulated markets.
Keywords: *Working of Regulated Markets, Royal Commission, Metric tonne (in MTs) Report on Marketing of Cotton in India, Quantity of Arrivals, forecasted, Descriptive Statistics, Compound Growth Rate, Agricultural Produces, Remunerative Prices.*

Introduction

The Performance of Regulated Market is depending not only on the farmers enrolled but also on the active participation by the participant farmers. Farmers in Madurai district market their agricultural produces through six Regulated Markets working under Madurai market committee depending on the area of domicile and landholding. Participants market their agricultural produce in the nearby Regulated Markets located at Madurai, Thirumangalam, Melur, Ussilampatti, Vadipatti and T.kallupatti. The operational performance of a Regulated Market depends on the arrivals of various agriculture produce for marketing the same. The details regarding the total quantity of arrivals of different crops (paddy, cotton, maize, coconut, groundnut, jowar and banana) in all six Regulated Markets.

Statement of the Problem

The Regulated Markets of Madurai District deserve special attention due to the less volume of trade transacted inside than outside their premises. Though Regulated Markets are rendering many services to the farming community, they are not able to succeed in motivating the farmers to sell their entire marketable surpluses through

these markets. It is known that the farmers still depend on private traders, money lenders and commission agencies for disposing their marketable surplus.

So the researcher has made an attempt to study the working of Regulated Markets in Madurai District, Tamil Nadu. The study has been undertaken based on the opinion of the participating farmers regarding their awareness of marketing practices followed in the Regulated Markets and the usage of various facilities available on the market premises. Also the researcher has taken efforts to identity and analyzed the reasons for which the non-participating farmers avoid using Regulated Markets.

Objectives of the Study

1. To trace the origin, growth and development of Regulated Markets in India.
2. To study the operational performance of Regulated Markets in Madurai district.
3. To study the awareness of marketing practices and usage of facilities by the participating farmers of Regulated Markets in Madurai district.
4. To analyse the level of satisfaction of participating farmers of Regulated Markets in Madurai district.

Scope of the Study

The researcher has undertaken this study based on the opinion of farmers participating in the Regulated Markets of Madurai district, to market the paddy harvested in their lands. In case of non-participant farmers, the reasons for not marketing paddy through Regulated Markets were analysed.

Area of the Study

The study area of the present research work is Madurai district. It is one of the major districts in Tamil Nadu where agriculture is the main occupation of majorityof the people. Agricultural farmers possessing different area of land, social status, income scales, and educational background live in this study area. The study has been undertaken in all the six Regulated Markets working in Madurai district.

Hypotheses

A hypothesis is a statement capable of being tested and thereby verified or rejected. The researcher has framed the following null hypotheses and tested them using Chi- Square Test.

Frame Work of Analysis

To make the raw data fit for analysis, the researcher scrutinised the filled in interview schedule and prepared a master table in Excel sheet. It has been designed in such a way as to contain the sum of information collected through the interview schedules. With the help of SPSS version 16, the researcher designed a number of functional tables

and the analysis was made. The tools used for analysis are Percentile Analysis, Chi-Square Test, Garret's Ranking Technique Trend Analysis and Factor Analysis.

Arrivals of All Crops in Madurai Market Committee

The statistical data relating to arrivals of different agricultural crops (paddy, cotton, maize, coconut, groundnut, jowar and banana) for sale at all the Regulated Markets located in Madurai, Thiumangalam, Melur, Ussilampatti, Vadipatti and T.kallupatti have been presented. The quantity of arrivals depends on the output in a particular year and it varies from year to year depending on the yield from agriculture operation and the number of participants has preferred Regulated Markets to market their agricultural produce.

Descriptive Statistics – Arrivals of All Agricultural Crops

Based on the data relating to arrivals of all agricultural crops in all the six regulated markets, mean standard deviation and co efficient of variation have been worked out and presented below.

Descriptive Statistics- Arrivals of All Agriculture Crops (in MTs)

Sl. No.	Regulated Markets	Mean	S.D.	C.V (%)
1	Madurai	5191.57	1358.92	26.17
2	Thirumangalam	4381.93	1617.71	36.92
3	Melur	3095.07	1655.49	53.49
4	Usillampatti	3208.07	977.69	30.47
5	Vadipatti	3498.50	1241.28	35.48
6	T.Kallupatti	3738.29	1930.29	51.64

Shows that the mean quantity of arrivals was found high in Madurai Regulated Market as 5191.57 metric tonne. The standard deviation of this Regulated Market was found as 1358.92 metric tonne and the coefficient of variation was 26.18 per cent. The mean quantity of arrivals was found least in Melur Regulated Market as 3095.07 metric tonne. The standard deviation of arrivals of this market was found 1655.49 metric tonne and the coefficient of variation was 53.49 per cent. The mean quantity of arrivals was found second in Thirumangalam Regulated Market as 4381.93 metric tonne. The standard deviation of this market was found 1617.71 metric tonne and the coefficient of variation was 36.92 per cent.

The mean quantity of arrivals was found third in T.kallupatti Regulated Market as 3738.29 metric tonne. The standard deviation of arrivals of this market was found 1930.29 and the coefficient of variation stood 51.64. per cent.

The mean quantity of arrivals was found fourth in Melur Regulated Market as 3095.07 metric tonne. The standard deviation of arrivals of this market was found 1655.49 metric tonne and the coefficient of variation stood 53.49 per cent.

Trend Analysis

Using linear trend analysis the researcher has attempted to work out linear and compound growth rate .The details are presented below

Trend Analysis – Arrivals of ALL Agricultural Crops (in MTs)

Sl. No.	Market	Linear Growth rate	R^2	t	Sign.	Compound Growth rate
1	Madurai	212.180	0.427	2.988	0.011	4.7%
2	Thirumangalam	188.314	0.237	1.931	0.077	4.5%
3	Melur	137.347	0.120	1.282	0.224	8.2%
4	Usilampatti	129.879	0.309	2.316	0.039	4.3%
5	Vadipatti	71.193	0.058	0.856	0.409	2.7%
6	T.Kallupatti	392.026	0.722	5.580	0.000	13.1%

Shows the growth analysis of arrivals of all agricultural crops in all the six regulated markets. The arrivals in Madurai Regulated Market grew at an annual growth rate of 212.180. The compound growth rate was found 4.7 per cent. With regard to Thirumangalam Regulated Market the arrivals grew at an annual growth rate of 188.314. The compound growth rate was found 4.5 per cent. With regard to Melur Regulated Market the revenue grew at an annual growth rate of 137.347. The compound growth rate was found 8.2 percent. In the case of Usilampatti Regulated Markets the arrivals grew at an annual growth rate of 129.879. The Compound growth rate was found 4.3 per cent. With regard to Vadipatti Regulated Market the revenue grew at an annual growth rate of 71.193. The compound growth rate was found 2.7 per cent. The arrivals in T.Kallupatti Regulated Market grew at an annual growth rate of 392.026. The compound growth rate was found 13.1 per cent.

Further the highest compound growth rate of 13.1% was found in T.Kallupatti Regulated Market and the lowest compound growth rate of 2.7% was found in Vadipatti Regulated market.

Forecast of Arrivals of All Agricultural Crops

The quantity of arrivals of all agricultural crops in all six Regulated Markets has been forecasted for a period of 10 years ending 2023-24.The details are presented below:

Projected Value - Arrivals of All Agriculture Crops (in MTs)

Sl.No.	Year	Madurai	Thirumangalam	Melur	Usilampatti	Vadipatti	T.Kallu patti
1	2014-15	6570.74	5605.96	3987.82	4052.28	3961.25	6286.45
2	2015-16	6782.92	5794.28	4125.17	4182.16	4032.44	6678.47
3	2016-17	6995.10	5982.59	4262.51	4312.04	4103.63	7070.50

4	2017-18	7207.28	6170.90	4399.86	4441.92	4174.83	7462.53
5	2018-19	7419.46	6359.22	4537.21	4571.80	4246.02	7854.55
6	2019-20	7631.64	6547.53	4674.56	4701.67	4317.21	8246.58
7	2020-21	7843.82	6735.85	4811.90	4831.55	4388.40	8638.60
8	2021-22	8056.00	6924.16	4949.25	4961.43	4459.60	9030.63
9	2022-23	8268.18	7112.47	5086.60	5091.31	4530.79	9422.66
10	2023-24	8480.36	7300.79	5223.94	5221.19	4601.98	9814.68

Shows the forecasted quantity of arrivals of agricultural crops in Madurai Market Committee. The forecasted arrival of Madurai Regulated Market was found 7419.46 metric tonne for 2018-19 and it measured 8480.36 metric tonne for the year 2023-24. In the case of Thirumanagalam Regulated Market it was 6359.22 metric tonne for 2018-19 and 7300.79 metric tonne for 2023-24. In the case of Melur Regulated Market it was 4537.213 metric tonne for 2018-19 and 5223.94 metric tonne for 2023-24. In the case of Ussilampatti Regulated Market it was forecasted to be 4571.80 metric tonne for 2018-19 and 5221.19 metric tonne for 2023-24. In the case of Vadipatti and T.Kallupatti Regulated Market it was forecasted to be 4246.02 metric tonne and 7854.55 metric tonne for 2018-19 and 4601.98 metric tonne and 9814.68 metric tonne for 2023-24.

Conclusions

It is only to protect the farmers from the exploitation of commission agencies and traders that the Royal Commission on Agriculture recommended the establishment of Regulated Markets as early as 1928. Here, it should be remembered that besides farmers the lack of dynamic participation by traders impedes the better performance of these markets. The Regulated Markets being an institution aiming at serving the farming community should gain the confidence of the farmers as well as traders which is a prerequisite for the success of the these markets. In view of that, the state while regulate the activities of the Regulated Markets aiming at ensuring remunerative prices to farmer-sellers the significance of the traders may not be ignored.

The study on the working of Regulated Markets with particular reference to Madurai District shows that these markets have succeeded only in mitigating the market handicaps of producer-sellers to some extent and have not attained their goals fully. In addition to identifying the factors of satisfaction, it has brought to light the facts relating to the facilities availed and the problems of utilizing Regulated Markets. The study also has brought to light the reasons as to why the farmers were not participating in Regulated Markets. Special efforts initiated by the market committee to improve the strength of participating farmers deserve appreciation. Also the surplus income generated at the disposal of the Market Committee should be fully utilized for offering the suggested facilities. It is hoped that if all the recommendations are carried out, the Regulated Markets would become an effective instrument of development for the economic welfare of the majority of the farmers.

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