



STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES

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ABSTRACT

There has been a significant change in the structure of exports and imports of agricultural products of India during the last two decades. Substantial amount of product and market diversification in both export and import of agricultural products has taken place during the corresponding period. A significant trend of continuous rise in export earnings and import payments of these products has been notified during the two decades between 1990-91 and 2009-10. However it is found that export earnings and import payments of agricultural products have indicated a trend of fluctuations in terms of the percentage of their growth to total exports and total imports of the country during the two decades. The future prospects for raising the level of exports and imports of agricultural products depend largely on the extent to which Indian agricultural products meet the changing demand in the world market and our ability to meet the competitive forces operating in the trade in agricultural products in the new environment of the WTO dispensation. Stress should be laid on value added export products from agricultural sector from India so that unit value of such exports will be higher import policy must be oriented to serve the domestically non-available consumer and high tech capital goods.