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Groundnut Production and Export Markets in India

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Abstract

This article examines Indian groundnut production and exports from 2016–17 to 2025–26 and assesses Rayalaseema's role using verified district production records. National production increased from 74.62 to 130.74 lakh tonnes, with the final observation a third advance estimate. Groundnut exports declined from 725,704.34 to 663,809.63 tonnes, while nominal dollar earnings fell from US$811.59 million to US$690.93 million. Indonesia, Vietnam and Malaysia were the largest destinations in 2025–26. An operational eight-district Rayalaseema grouping produced 308,160 tonnes in 2024–25, equivalent to 81.74% of Andhra Pradesh production and 2.58% of national production. These production shares do not establish its export contribution. District export volumes and quantified regional demand could not be verified. The article applies growth rates, compound annual growth, unit values, destination concentration, production shares and weighted yield formulas. It distinguishes measured shipments from potential demand and identifies the origin-linked records needed to calculate a defensible regional export share.

Keywords: *groundnut; peanuts; Rayalaseema; production; export demand; Andhra Pradesh*

JEL codes: *F14 Q13 Q17 R11*

Scope definitions and reporting approach

The ten-year export panel uses APEDA's Groundnuts category 0501 and a common extraction date for national, destination and state-classified records [1]. It does not combine groundnut oil or oilcake with the groundnut series. Export years run April to March. National crop production refers to the agricultural reporting year bearing the same label; these periods are not assumed to have identical harvest and shipment timing. Production is reported in lakh tonnes or thousand tonnes as specified. One lakh tonne equals 100,000 tonnes. Crop production and export shipments may use different pod and kernel bases, so we do not divide them to claim a precise export share of the harvest. All dollar and rupee values are nominal. No regression, causal effect or forecast is estimated.

National groundnut production over ten years

Table 1 Groundnut production in India

Agricultural year	Production lakh tonnes	Status and source
2016-17	74.62	DES historical series [2]
2017-18	92.53	DES historical series [2]
2018-19	67.27	DES historical series [2]
2019-20	99.52	DES historical series [2]
2020-21	102.44	Reported in 2026 reply [3]
2021-22	101.35	Reported in 2026 reply [3]
2022-23	102.97	Reported in 2026 reply [3]
2023-24	101.80	Reported in 2026 reply [3]
2024-25	119.42	Reported in 2026 reply [3]
2025-26	130.74	Third advance estimate [4]

Sources: [2–4]. The latest year is an estimate and is not labelled final. Historical production data and current export data have separate reporting vintages.

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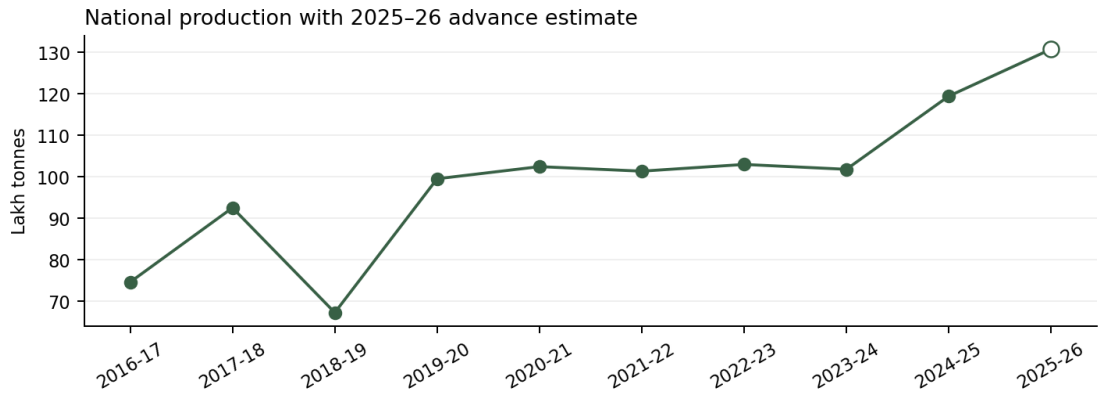
Figure 1 National groundnut production



Source: Table 1. The hollow final marker denotes the third advance estimate. The vertical axis uses lakh tonnes.

$$CAGR = 100[(X(9)/X(0))\text{^}(1/9) - 1] \quad (1)$$

Ten annual observations contain nine growth intervals. Production $CAGR = 100\left[(130.74/74.62)^{(1/9)} - 1\right] = 6.43$. This result includes the 2025–26 estimate; it will change if that estimate is revised.

Export quantities receipts and annual changes

Table 2 Groundnut exports from India

Financial year	Quantity tonnes	US$ million	Rs crore	US$/kg
2016-17	725,704.34	811.59	5,444.33	1.118
2017-18	504,019.20	524.82	3,386.30	1.041
2018-19	489,187.11	473.81	3,298.33	0.969
2019-20	664,442.92	711.41	5,096.39	1.071
2020-21	638,582.92	727.40	5,381.61	1.139
2021-22	514,163.87	629.26	4,697.10	1.224
2022-23	668,885.40	831.60	6,735.25	1.243
2023-24	680,698.61	860.73	7,135.35	1.264
2024-25	746,303.13	794.99	6,728.41	1.065
2025-26	663,809.63	690.93	6,092.22	1.041

Source: [1], Product-wise report, Groundnuts 0501, all states and destinations. Unit values calculated from the unrounded returned quantities and displayed dollar values.

$$g(t) = 100[X(t)/X(t-1) - 1] \quad (2)$$

In 2025–26, quantity growth = 100[(663809.627/746303.127) − 1] = -11.05%. Dollar receipts changed by -13.09%. Over the full panel, quantity CAGR was -0.99% and dollar-value CAGR was -1.77%.

$$UV(t) = 1{,}000\,V(t)/Q(t) \quad (3)$$

V is in US$ million, and Q is in tonnes, so US$/kg is calculated as V/Q. For 2025–26: 1,000 × 690.93/663809.627 = US$1.041/kg. Shipment unit value combines price, grade and destination mix and is not a farm-gate price. The decade's largest shipment volume was 746,303.13 tonnes in 2024-25. Dollar earnings peaked at US$860.73 million in 2023-24. Therefore, production growth did not translate into sustained export earnings growth. The aggregate panel cannot identify whether competition, quality, domestic absorption, prices or other factors caused this divergence.

Export trends and the interpretation of demand

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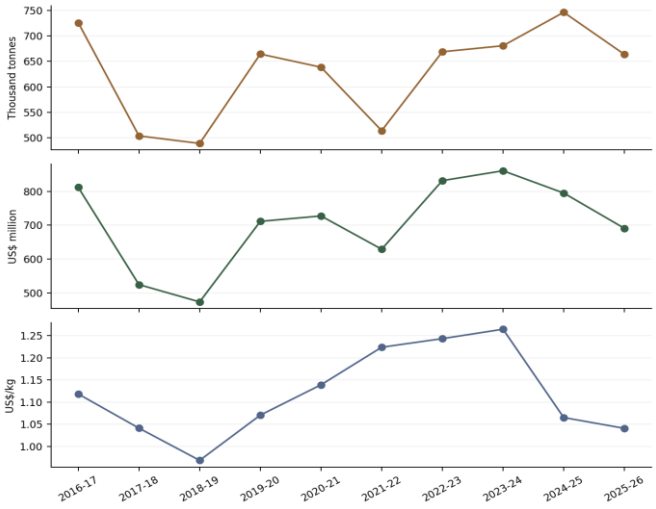
Figure 2 Quantity earnings and average export unit value



Source: Table 2. Each panel uses separate units and scales. Receipts are nominal US dollars.

The latest average export unit value was 2.29% below 2024–25. Lower receipts thus reflected both fewer tonnes and a lower average dollar return per kilogram. Indian export sales measure foreign purchases of Indian exports. They do not measure total foreign consumption or the volume buyers would purchase at a different price.

Demand channels

Domestic demand comes from oil crushing, direct food consumption, food manufacturing and seed retention. Overseas buyers also have different requirements for size, grade, processing, and delivery. A regional demand study would need procurement volumes, order books, grade premiums and prices. Cultivation area alone cannot quantify demand or support a demand elasticity estimate.

Overseas markets and concentration

Table 3 Export receipts in the five largest current markets

Year	Indonesia	Vietnam	Malaysia	China	Philippines
2016-17	215.83	170.38	75.21	23.04	61.00
2017-18	233.26	49.55	39.90	0.60	47.06
2018-19	193.98	38.49	29.97	1.01	46.75
2019-20	234.36	147.94	40.15	34.54	53.41
2020-21	239.56	152.66	42.60	77.34	53.56
2021-22	320.61	68.12	55.20	0.41	58.12
2022-23	278.99	202.36	63.19	13.65	64.56
2023-24	268.41	172.15	67.02	2.07	70.63
2024-25	279.05	109.48	51.91	11.13	66.87
2025-26	172.01	105.10	86.48	45.91	44.28

Source: [1], Country-wise report. Values in US$ million. These are the five largest destinations ranked by 2025–26 receipts, retained throughout the historical panel. Other countries are omitted.

Table 4 Leading destinations in 2025–26

Destination	Tonnes	US$ million	Value share %
Indonesia	162,949.96	172.01	24.90
Vietnam	94,865.47	105.10	15.21
Malaysia	80,985.18	86.48	12.52

Economic Sciences
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China	52,563.54	45.91	6.64
Philippines	41,425.91	44.28	6.41
UAE	43,272.93	43.13	6.24
Thailand	31,789.44	39.51	5.72
Bangladesh	33,592.67	25.26	3.66

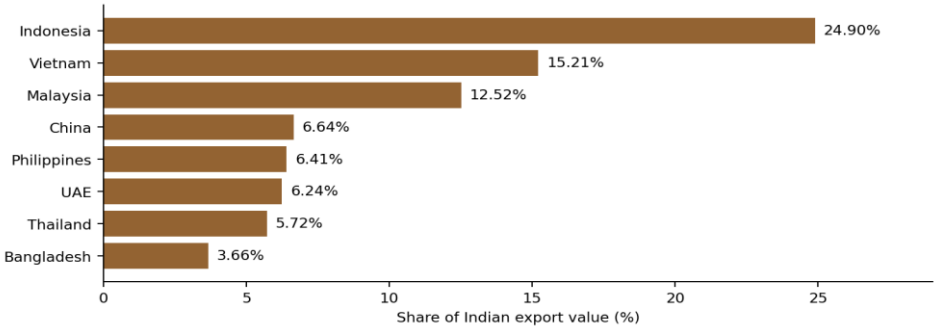
Source: [1]. Shares use national receipts of US$690.93 million. These are Indian export-market shares, not India's share of all imports by each destination.

$$S(j) = 100\,V(j)/V(India);\ CR5 = sum\ of\ top\ five\ shares \quad (4)$$

Indonesia's value share = 100 × 172.01/690.93 = 24.90%. The five largest destinations total US$453.78 million and CR_5 is 65.68%. This is a concentration statistic, not a causal demand estimate.

Market composition and domestic demand evidence

Figure 3 Largest destination shares in 2025–26



Source: Table 4. Percentages are based on dollar receipts.

Southeast Asian destinations dominate the current ranking. Maintaining sales requires attention to buyer specifications and delivery terms, while spreading sales across buyers can reduce dependence on a single market. The data establish trade relationships; they do not demonstrate that diversification will automatically raise farmer returns.

Published demand estimates require reconciliation

ANGRAU's 2025–26 outlook reproduces an Agriwatch balance sheet with total demand of 58.8 lakh tonnes in 2024–25 and an estimated 49.9 lakh tonnes in 2025–26 [5]. Its latter components are crushing 28.00, direct consumption 10.50, exports 6.90 and seed retention 4.52 lakh tonnes. These components sum to 49.92, consistent with a rounded total of 49.9. They are commercial estimates on that report's own supply basis, not a ten-year official consumption series.

The outlook's supply table uses market arrivals and differs materially from national crop production. Its estimated export quantity also differs from the realised APEDA total. Accordingly, it is not combined with Tables 1 and 2 to derive a stock balance or an exact export-to-production ratio. The report also presents sector shares under a separate classification; these shares do not replace the destination shares calculated here.

Rayalaseema production and the district boundary break

For 2022–23 to 2024–25, the operational grouping includes Anantapur, Sri Sathya Sai, Kurnool, Nandyal, YSR Kadapa, Annamayya, Chittoor and Tirupati. Earlier records cover the older four districts Anantapur, Kurnool, YSR Kadapa and Chittoor. District reorganisation in 2022 prevents

Economic Sciences
https://economic-sciences.com
ES(2026) 22, (2), 732-737 | ISSN:1505-4683

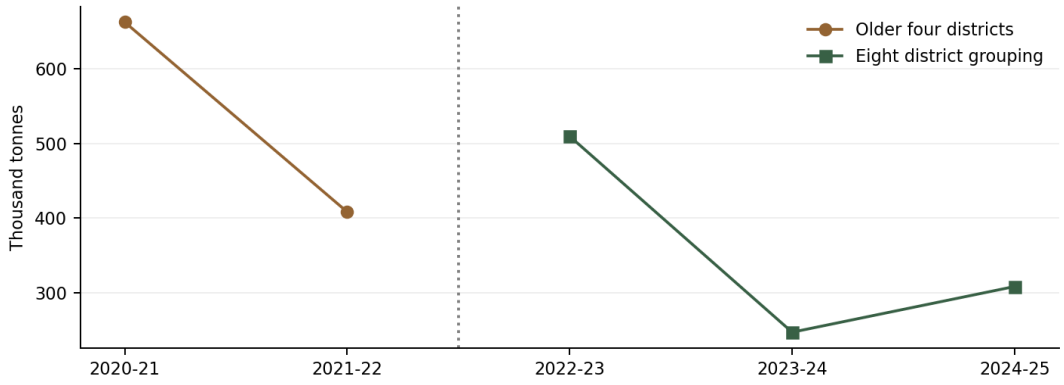
treating the two groupings as a fully harmonised geographic series. Tirupati also contains territory from the older Nellore district. Later boundary changes are not imposed retrospectively on these observations.

Table 5 Available regional production and shares

Year	District basis	Area thousand ha	Output thousand t	AP share %	India share %
2020-21	Older four	835.02	662.89	85.53	6.47
2021-22	Older four	792.19	408.27	79.12	4.03
2022-23	Eight districts	567.60	509.78	84.82	4.95
2023-24	Eight districts	288.60	246.87	76.43	2.43
2024-25	Eight districts	307.85	308.16	81.74	2.58

Source: author aggregation of district records in [3], Annexure II. State and national denominators are rounded totals in Annexure I. 2016–17 to 2019–20 and 2025–26 regional observations were not verified and are not interpolated. The table is a five-year regional evidence panel within a ten-year national study.

Figure 4 Regional production with an explicit series break



Source: Table 5. The dotted line marks the change from the older four districts to the eight-district grouping. No line connects the two bases.

$$S(R, India) = 100\,P(R)/P(India);\ S(R, AP) = 100\,P(R)/P(AP) \quad (5)$$

For 2024–25: regional national share = 100 × 308.16/11,942 = 2.58%; regional AP share = 100 × 308.16/377 = 81.74%. All inputs in these examples are thousand tonnes. Neither percentage is an export share.

District production and weighted regional yield

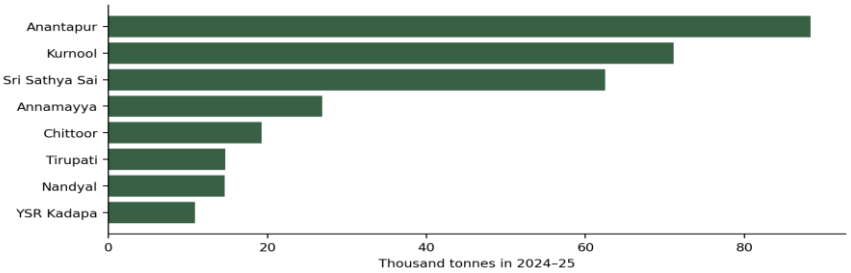
Table 6 Production in the eight district groupings

District	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2024–25 area thousand ha
Anantapur	133.72	49.01	88.29	120.69
Sri Sathya Sai	96.62	57.39	62.45	74.50
Kurnool	86.53	40.79	71.06	53.83
Nandyal	13.60	9.45	14.62	9.99
YSR Kadapa	21.48	21.37	10.87	5.33
Annamayya	68.26	25.18	26.90	21.00
Chittoor	58.99	22.39	19.29	17.07
Tirupati	30.58	21.29	14.68	5.44
Regional total	509.78	246.87	308.16	307.85

Economic Sciences
https://economic-sciences.com
ES(2026) 22, (2), 732-737 | ISSN:1505-4683

Source: [3], Annexure II. Production columns are thousand tonnes. District records are added as published; no estimation of missing districts is performed.

Figure 5 District contributions in 2024–25



Source: Table 6. Bars show production rather than exports.

$$Y(R) = 1{,}000\ [sum\ of\ district\ output] / [sum\ of\ district\ area] \quad (6)$$

With production in thousand tonnes and area in thousand hectares, the factor 1,000 gives kg/ha. Regional yield = 1,000 × 308.16/307.85 = 1,001.01 kg/ha. This area-weighted yield is preferable to a simple mean of district yields.

On the consistent eight-district basis, output fell from 509.78 to 246.87 thousand tonnes in 2023–24 and recovered to 308.16 thousand tonnes in 2024–25, a recovery of 24.83%. Three observations are insufficient to establish a long-run regional trend or attribute changes to a particular cause.

Regional export share and local demand reporting

Table 7 Selected state classifications in 2025–26 exports

Reporting classification	US$ million	Share of India value %
Gujarat	573.11	82.95
Tamil Nadu	64.48	9.33
Andhra Pradesh	0.62	0.09

Source: [1], State-wise report. These classifications are not verified cultivation origins and cannot be used to infer the origin of nuts processed or shipped through another state.

APEDA's Andhra Pradesh classification records US$0.62 million and 577.37 tonnes in 2025–26. This is not an upper bound on exports of Andhra Pradesh-grown or Rayalaseema-grown nuts. Produce can move through processors and exporters elsewhere. Similarly, the large Gujarat classification does not establish that every exported nut was cultivated there.

$$ESQ(R) = 100\ Q(origin\ R) / Q(India) \quad (7)$$

For value share, ESV(R) = 100 V(origin R)/V(India). The numerator must trace export lots back to nuts grown in the defined region, with consistent product form and year. No verified Rayalaseema-origin numerator is available, so both regional export shares are reported as not available rather than zero.

Evidence needed for demand and export participation

A regional demand baseline should link farmer or FPO lots to purchases by shellers, oil mills, food processors and exporters. Records should include pod weight, kernel recovery, grade, sale price, procurement location and buyer orders. Export lots should then be reconciled with shipping bills, destination and origin. Transfers between intermediaries must not be counted repeatedly as final demand.

The February 2026 parliamentary reply explicitly states that quantities processed locally and proportions transported outside districts or the state

Economic Sciences
https://economic-sciences.com
ES(2026) 22, (2), 732-737 | ISSN:1505-4683

are unavailable [3]. Its sanctioned-loan counts therefore cannot serve as processing capacity or actual purchases. The immediate statistical priority is to collect quantities and origin, alongside profitability and payment information, before setting a regional export target.

Conclusions

India's groundnut production increased across the national ten-year panel, while export volume and dollar earnings ended below their starting levels. Rayalaseema remains a major contributor to Andhra Pradesh groundnut output, but its contribution to national exports is unmeasured. Development proposals should test local procurement, quality performance, processing recovery and buyer commitments rather than equate production with export demand.

Every update should state the fiscal or crop year, commodity form, unit, geographic definition, estimate status, extraction date and denominator. Keep revisions separate from growth, distinguish percentages from percentage-point changes, and show missing data explicitly. No significance tests or confidence intervals are presented because these are descriptive administrative totals and no sampling or causal model is estimated.

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Data consistency

The current APEDA product page rounds 2025–26 exports to 663,809.68 tonnes, while the common detailed extract used here returns 663,809.627 tonnes, or 663,809.63 after rounding. The 0.05-tonne display difference is retained as a source-vintage or reporting discrepancy rather than silently replacing one observation. The common extract governs all trade calculations. Destination and state values are rounded by the service; aggregation can therefore differ slightly from national values.

National crop totals are used from the sources specified in Table 1. The ANGRAU outlook contains differing national and district/state compilation bases, so its newer district figures are not spliced into the internally aligned 2020–21 to 2024–25 parliamentary regional panel. No ten-year regional series, district demand estimate, or Rayalaseema export share is manufactured to fill the gaps.