

# Impact on export of horticulture crops after abrogation of Article 370 and 35A in Jammu and Kashmir

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## Abstract

Horticulture is the core sector of Indian economy. In Jammu and Kashmir, horticulture plays an important role in growing economy and contributes significantly to the economy of the state. About 35 lakh of Kashmiri people are directly or indirectly dependant on horticulture. Apple is the most important fruit in the valley as 8.00 crores of apple boxes are exported annually and constitutes 90% of the total fruit crops in the Kashmir valley. Horticulture crops provide better option than agriculture in terms of economic returns. Horticulture plays an important role in generating employment and country's nutritional security as well. From last few years ,production of horticulture crops has increased results in huge export of horticulture crops from the state. Kashmir is very famous for its beauty and horticulture crops in the world.

The study shows the positive growth in area under cultivation of horticulture crops, production and import of various fresh and dry fruits. Though there are fluctuations in recent years but these fluctuations are due to turmoils in 2008,2010,2013,2016. The study shows the highest decrease in export of fresh fruit in 2019 .the decrease is due to uprisings post abrogation of article 370 and 35A.

## Introduction

As we know, horticulture is the part of agriculture. It is concerned with gardens. Horticulture means cultivation of gardens crops. It contributes a good share of economy in India. The rich biodiversity enables India to produce wide varieties of crops. India is the second largest producer of horticulture and agriculture crops in the world. India is leading in various crops like, cashew nuts, potato, papaya, banana and Arica nuts( Dar 2017) ( Murtaza 2015. The climate, soil and other climate condition in Jammu and Kashmir has good potential for growing wide variety of horticulture crops which have great value and demand outside the country. Apple is the main horticulture crop in Kashmir and it is considered a highly profitable crop in the state ( Rather A.M,2017 ).

## Area of the study

The Jammu and Kashmir, was a state until 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2019, now it is a union territory of India. It is located in the north of India near the Karakoram range of Gilgit Baltistan(Pakistan) and westernmost Himalayan mountain ranges. Since partition in 1947 Kashmir has been a matter of dispute among India, Pakistan and China . The legislation passed in august 2019 aimed to change the status of Kashmir , which once was a state is splitn into union territories of Ladakh and Kashmir. The legislation was implemented on October 2019,

Jammu and Kashmir is well known for its horticulture crops. The unique climate of Kashmir valley offers good scope for the cultivation of horticulture goods. The unique climate and temperature are responsible for the unique quality of horticulture crops in the state. Horticulture is the backbone of state economy. Various initiatives have been taken by state government about the development of horticulture sector like integrated development of horticulture, high density plantation programmes, prime minister development package , the attention is being laid on high density orchards, good cold storage houses, post harvest management, establishment of mandis , technological support etc. Apple is the main fruit of the state and considered as king off all fruits. China is the largest apple producing country in the world and India is at second. 48% of area is under apple cultivation in Kashmir (census 2016-17) produces 17.26 lakh Metric tonnes of apples and export worth Rupees 65000 crores during 2016-17 (J&K,2017).

## Research methodology

The current study is based on secondary data, the study is analytical and empirical in nature. The data is mainly collected from official government records, articles, reviews, magazines, fiscal survey, Digestive of statistics, Directorate of horticulture and marketing department J&K, journals and other departments which are associated with horticulture department. The study has been analysed through tables and compared through analysis.

## Objectives of the study

1. To analyse the impact on export of horticulture crops after the abrogation of article 370 and 35A.
2. To evaluate the production, area and productivity of major fruits in Jammu and Kashmir.
3. To evaluate the export of apples from the state.

## Area under major horticulture crops in Kashmir division from 2016-19 (area in hectares)

**Table 1**

Sr.	Crops	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Apple	144825	146016	146327
2	Pear	6932	6614	6311
3	Apricot	3224	2968	2800
4	Peach	916	820	714
5	Plum	1317	1471	1427
6	Cherry	2835	2748	2713
7	Grapes	228	230	230
8	Strawberry	174	152	152
	Total	160,451	161,019	160,674

## Area under dry fruits in Kashmir division from 2016-19 (area in hectares)

		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
9	Walnuts	51021	47004	4612
10	Peanuts	0	0	0
11	Almonds	6977	5593	5471
12	Other dry	43	47	47
	Total	58041	52643	51643

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## Production of fresh fruits in Kashmir division from 2016-19 (production in MTs)

**Table 1.1**

Sr.		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Apple	1688413	1860463	1851723
2	Pear	58072	64669	61191
3	Apricot	9387	16925	16156
4	Peach	3609	2977	2714
5	Plum	5872	7575	7710
6	Cherry	8282	11280	11789
7	Grapes	495	753	779
8	Strawberry	388	412	425
	Total	1,774,468	19,65,054	1,952,487

## Production of dry fruits in Kashmir division from 2016-19 (production in MTs)

		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
9	Walnuts	174053	190451	195066
10	Peanuts	0	0	0
11	Almonds	6355	13104	10321
12	Other dry	5	15	18
	Total	180413	203569	205405

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Table 1 and 1.1 show that Area and production under fresh fruits and dry fruits are increasing. the area under the cultivation of apple has increased by 1.0% from 144825 hectares to 146327 hectares . from 2016-19 the production of apple has increased by 9.67% from 1688413 to 1851732 this means the growth of apple production is increased 2019. Land under pear fruit has decreased by 8.95% from 6932 to 6311 hectares but production has increased from 58027 to 61191 metric tonnes The total area under fresh fruits has increased by 1.97% from 160451 to 160674 hectares in 2016-19 . the total production of fresh fruits also show increased by 10.03% from 1774468 to 1952487 metric tonnes in 2016-19.

Under the dry fruits walnuts shows the major contribution. In 2016-19 The total area under walnuts has increased by 90.96% from 51021 to 4612 hectares . the production of walnuts also increased by 12.07% from 174053 to 195066 metric tonnes. From the duration 2016-19 The area under almonds has also increased by 62.40% from 6355 to 10321 metric tonnes. The total production of dry fruits has increased by 13.85% from 180413 to 205405 metric tonnes. From the duration 2016-19 the area under dry fruits has decreased by 11.02% from 58041 to 51643 hectares. From the year 20016-19 but its production has increased by 13.85% from 180413 to 205405 metric tonnes. Though there are fluctuations in production of many fruits like peach, almonds, pear and apricots in Kashmir division this is due to seasonal variation.

### Area under major horticulture crops in Jammu division from 2016-19(area in hectares)

**Table 2**

Sr.		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Apple	18146	18395	18415
2	Pear	7600	7630	7633
3	Apricot	2899	2977	2987
4	Peach	1699	1703	1703
5	Plum	2665	2656	2656
6	Cherry	0	0	0
7	Grapes	93	102	102
8	Strawberry	0	0	0
	Total	27,772	33,463	33,496

### Area under dry fruits in Jammu division from 2016-19 (area in hectares)

		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
9	Walnuts	38313	38618	38653
10	Peanuts	414	493	493
11	Almonds	130	117	5588
12	Other dry	5	0	47
	Total	38867	39229	90906

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### Production of fresh fruits in Jammu division from 2016-19 (production in Mts)

**Table 2.1**

Sr.		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	Apple	38421	22312	30595
2	Pear	30257	24789	24843
3	Apricot	4211	4206	43100
4	Peach	2612	2496	2512
5	Plum	4240	3911	4150
6	Cherry	0	0	0
7	Grapes	153	139	269
8	Strawberry	0	0	0
	Total	79,894	57,853	105,469

### Production of dry fruits in Jammu division from 2016-19(production in Mts)

		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
9	Walnuts	9227	84999	84356
10	Peanuts	86	65	72

11	Almonds	5	5	5
12	Other dry	2898	0	0
	Total	95216	85071	84433

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Table 2 and 2.1, Show that Area and production under fresh fruits and dry fruits are increasing. The area under the cultivation of apple has increased from 18146 hectares to 18415 hectares. From year 2016-19 the production of apple has decreased from 38421 to 30595 this means the growth of apple production has decreased 2019 by 7826 Metric tonnes. Land under pear fruit has increased 17.7% from 30257 to 24843 hectares in 2019, production has also increased from 7600 to 7633 metric tonnes . The total area under fresh fruits has increased from 27772 to 33496 hectares from 2016-19 . the total production of fresh fruits also show increased in number by 32% from 79894 to 105469 metric tonnes in 2016-19 the increase is about 32% Under the dry fruits walnuts shows the major contribution. In 2016-19 The total area under walnuts has increased by 0.88% from 38313 to 38653 hectares. The production of walnuts also increased from 9227 to 84356 metric tonnes. From the duration 2016-19 The area under almonds has also increased from 130 to 5588 metric tonnes. The total production of dry fruits has increased by 11.33% from 95216 to 84433 metric tonnes. From the duration 2016-19 the area under dry fruits has increased from 38867 to 90906 hectares. From the year 2016-19 The area under other dry fruits has increased from 5 to 47 hectares but its production has decreased by 2898 metric tonnes .

In nut shell, it is concluded from above tables that the production and area under cultivation of dry and fresh fruits are continuously increased though there are fluctuation in many years that is may be due to turmoil and seasonal variation.

### Apple production from 2006-2019 in Kashmir valley

Table 3

Sr.	Year	Production in metric tones	Growth rate %	Area under apple cultivation	Growth %
1	2006-07	1222176	-	119041	-
2	2007-08	1311845	7.33	127795	7.35
3	2008-09	1332811	1.59	132538	3.71
4	2009-10	1367805	2.62	139041	4.90
5	2010-11	1852413	35.42	141717	1.92
6	2011-12	1749227	-0.567	154721	9.17
7	2012-13	1348155	-22.92	175280	1.65
8	2013-14	1647687	-28.97	160865	2.27
9	2014-15	1170306	67.90	163432	1.59
10	2015-16	1966417	68.02	161880	-0.94
11	2016-17	1688413	-14.13	144825	10.5
12	2017-18	1860463	-1.0	146016	0.82
13	2018-19	1851723	-0.46	146327	0.212

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There is continuous progress of apple production in Jammu and Kashmir by 51.51% from 1222176 to 1851723 metric tonnes from 2006-19. From last 13 years it is clearly seen the continuous growth in apple production. the main reason for tremendous growth in apple, farmers shifted agriculture land to horticulture because horticulture products have high economic value than commercial crops.

**Export of fresh fruits from Jammu and Kashmir.****Table 4 . Export of fresh fruits from 2006-2019(MTs)**

Year	Export (MTs)	Growth %
2006-07	296682.75	-
2007-08	167928.60	-43
2008-09	278509.70	65.85
2010-11	148769.64	-46.58
2011-12	184476.64	24
2012-13	202725.54	9.89
2013-14	240779.35	18.77
2014-15	278159.44	15.5
2015-16	528842.31	9.23
2016-17	320096.41	-39.47
2017-18	1954876.9	52.32
2018-19	91557.32	-95.31

Source: Digestive of statistics 2016-17 and J&K horticulture planning and marketing department

Jammu and Kashmir exports apples in huge quantity to other countries in turns to earn significant foreign exchanges

Jammu and Kashmir exports fruits to other states and countries, the state occupied an important position in term of trade. Export of fresh fruits shows continuous increase for the year 2016-17. The total quantity exported during 2006-07 was 296682.75 and 320096.41 metric tonnes in -17. But in 2018-19 highest decrease in export of fresh fruits has recorded, about 95.31 % decrease as compared to 2017-18 this is the result of turmoil intensified in the state after abrogation of article 370 and 35a

It is clearly seen from the table 4 that Apple orchards are the back bone of the economy of Jammu and Kashmir and Kashmiri people from the year. Apart from apple the major fruit grown in Jammu and Kashmir are almonds, walnuts, plum ,pear ,saffron and cherries . horticulture plays an important role in Jammu and Kashmir. Horticulture is the main income source for about 33 lakh population in Jammu and Kashmir.

During 2006-2017 there is continuous progress in export of fresh fruits from Jammu and Kashmir but as compared to year 2017-18 it has heavy decrease about 1863,319.58 metric tonnes in export of fresh fruits in 2018-19 which is about 95% decreased as compared to 2017-18

After scrapping of article 370 and 35A Kashmir registers huge decline in fruit export about 95% in august 2019. Despite of heavy restriction ,protest and shutdown mobile network, internet and transportation results in big drop on export of fruits outside the state. Trades were unable to get touch in with growers as there was no phone connectivity. The valley has remained under lockdown for 6 months since the abrogation of article 370 and 35A.

The apple growers in Jammu and Kashmir have export 5.79 lakh metric tonnes in 2018 and 4.50 lakh metric tonnes in 2019, compared with 2018 the apple export had dip of around 1.35 lakh metric tonne in 2019 . According to the horticulture censuses 2016-17 about 65000 crores worth export of apple were reported. According to the report on November 16,2019 farmers, struggle coordination committee it is estimated a loss of 7000-8000 crores due to curfew after the abrogation of article 370 and 35A. However, according to the agriculture department,there is a loss of 35000 crores. According to the report by agriculture department, the annual turnover of the horticulture sector is about Rupees 10,000 crores.

According to the government official report ,Kashmir exports 20 lakh metric tons of apple every year and horticulture sector pegged 8000 to 9000 crore every year. Kashmir produce 22 lakh metric tonnes of apple every year which is about 70% of total country's production. some of the growers who kept their produce in the cold storage are not unable to transport because of Covid19 as there is no market. As compared to other year the production of apple has increased in 2019 by 8740 metric tonnes. But due to the restriction in the state ,and communication blockade growers were unable to export the produce. In 2018 producers export 70% of apple from the state . Apart from the apple, plum, cherry, pear and saffron had also shown huge loss.

## Conclusion and Suggestions

Jammu and Kashmir produces great quantity of horticulture crops and exports about 70% of share to the other states and outside the country also. Many young people are able to earn their livelihood and earn good return from other countries. Horticulture is the biggest source of income in the state. The annual turnover of 75 million US\$. The farmers have shifted their land from agriculture to horticulture due to high economic return on horticulture production. though the study revealed that the cultivation area and production of crops has increased but export plunge 95.31% in 2019. For sustaining employment and economic returns in the state proper marketing should be provided to the cultivators and separate trading zones should be established where from cultivators can export their production from the state and can earn foreign exchange. Government must support various projects and schemes like market intervention scheme, technology mission for post-harvest management, national horticulture mission etc. Jammu Kashmir is the disputed area. The state is always under unrest and restrictions, government should take it seriously and support cultivators during those miserable times. New fruit mandies should be established in every district, and reduce transportation charges. More cold storage facilities must be installed so that cultivators can store their produce during the restriction days and providing required policy during trying times it will provide great relief to the distressed cultivators and others who are dependent on this sector for livelihood. There should be no restriction for transportation of crops during trying times as horticulture is the fundamental instrument to reduce poverty in the UT.

### Authors contribution.

Conceptualization and designing of research work ( NAW); Data collection(NAW); Analysis and interpretation( NAW); Preparation of manuscript( NAW, BHJ)

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