

RICE TRADE OF MYANMAR (1962-1974)

Ph.D. (DISSERTATION)

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ABSTRACT

This dissertation placed emphasis on Myanmar rice trade in the period of the Revolutionary Council Government from 1962 to 1974. With regard to paddy cultivation, the traditional cultivation method was transformed to scientific cultivation method so as to boost production of paddy. Quality strains of paddy were imported. Moreover, distribution of paddy plants and distribution of quality paddy were carried out. As every farmers had the rights of farming works, situation of farmland became stable. The government gave encouragement to cultivation of double and mixed cropping patterns by extending reclamation of vacant and fallow lands to be cultivable lands. Dams and reservoirs were constructed in implementing the long-term and short-term plans. At that time, concerted efforts were made for transforming the manual farming into the mechanized farming. Large rice mills were responsible to produce rice for domestic consumption and export whereas small rice mill milled for local consumption. The State Agricultural Marketing Board improved tasks of milling rice for production of quality rice to be exported. Farmers gave priority to choosing the rice mills that produced best quality of rice due to difference in milling quality of rice mills depending on the types of rice. In the time of the Revolutionary Council Government, distribution of rice at home became the most important task of the Union of Myanmar Agricultural Marketing Board. Under control of the Ministry of Trade Development, trade organizations were formed for exporting rice. Prices of rice were fixed. In exporting rice, the government practised various systems. Moreover, the government disbursed agricultural loans. With a view to ensuring smooth flow of exporting rice, fulfillments were provided at Sittway and Mawlamyine ports.

Seven jetties were built at the ports Rice exporting areas of the nation were divided into four groups. Indonesia purchased the largest amount of rice from Myanmar. Ngasein rice took the largest share of export. Rice quality controller teams were constituted at the ports to decide quality of rice.

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