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Rice Paper: Global Market Opportunities & Manufacturing Insights

Rice paper is a versatile product with applications spanning food, art, packaging, and pharmaceuticals. While traditionally dominated by Southeast Asian manufacturers, India has emerging opportunities in this niche market. This presentation explores the complete ecosystem of rice paper - from production to export challenges.



Diverse Applications of Rice Paper



Food Industry

Used in making spring rolls, summer rolls, dumplings, and sushi wraps.
Serves as a gluten-free alternative to wheat wrappers.



Confectionery

Edible rice paper for cake decoration, printing logos, and edible wrappers.



Art & Craft

Used in painting, calligraphy, lamp shades, origami, and various crafts.



Industrial & Pharma

Serves as biodegradable packaging, eco-friendly wrappers, and edible coating for medicines and herbal products.

Rice Paper Product Categories



Edible Rice Paper (for food wrapping)
• Printed Edible Rice Paper (cake decorations,
• branding) Craft Rice Paper (for
painting/calligraphy) Decorative Rice Paper
(lamps, origami, luxury packaging) Pharma-
grade Rice Paper (medicine coating, herbal
supplements)

Each category serves distinct markets with
specific quality requirements
and manufacturing processes.

Rice Paper Production in India

Rice paper remains a niche product in India, with more being imported than manufactured domestically. However, India's abundant rice production provides the essential raw material base.

Major Rice-Producing States

- Andhra Pradesh 3 East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna
- Tamil Nadu 3 Thanjavur, Villupuram, Tiruchirappalli
- West Bengal 3 Burdwan, Nadia, Murshidabad
- Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha

Emerging Manufacturing Hubs

- Andhra Pradesh (Vijayawada, East Godavari)
- Tamil Nadu (Thanjavur, Madurai)
- West Bengal (Kolkata, Nadia)
- Small craft-based units in Rajasthan & Gujarat

While Vietnam, Thailand, and China lead global production, India is gradually developing small-scale manufacturing units.

Essential Machinery for Rice Paper Manufacturing

01

Rice Grinder / Wet Milling Machine

03

Steaming & Drying Machine (solar or mechanical dryer)

05

Edible Printing Machine (for cake decoration rice paper)

02

Rice Paper Sheet Pressing Machine

04

Rolling & Cutting Machine

06

Packaging & Sealing Machine

Wholesale Markets & Distribution

Major Wholesale Markets in India

Delhi 3 Khari Baoli & Sadar Bazaar
(import & wholesale)

Kolkata 3 Burrabazar

Mumbai 3 Crawford Market

Chennai 3 Koyambedu Market

Ahmedabad & Jaipur (craft/art paper markets)



These markets serve as distribution hubs for both imported and domestically produced rice paper products.

Quality Standards & Certification

Types of Qualities/Grades

By Usage:

- Food-grade Rice Paper (edible, hygienic)
- Edible Printed Paper (confectionery)
- Craft/Decorative Rice Paper (non-edible)

By Thickness:

- Thin Sheets (spring rolls, cakes)
- Medium Sheets (dumplings)
- Thick Sheets (art & craft)

Quality Inspection Requirements

- Food-Grade Certification (FSSAI, FDA, EU standards)
- Moisture & Contaminant Testing
- Heavy Metal & Pesticide Residue Testing
- Microbiological Test (Bacteria/Yeast/Mold Free)
- Allergen-Free & Gluten-Free Certificate Packaging &
- Labelling Compliance

Quality standards vary significantly between edible and non-edible rice paper products, with food-grade requiring stricter certifications.



Global Export Opportunities

10

Top Importing Countries

USA, UK, Germany, France,
Netherlands, Australia,
Japan, South Korea,
Canada, UAE

2

HS Codes

19059040 (Food/Edible)
48239019
(Craft/Decorative)

APEDA Registration

5-year registration fee with
GST

Rice paper is in high demand in global markets, particularly for Asian cuisine, bakery applications, and crafts. Export is regulated through **APEDA** for food products and **EPCH** for craft/handmade varieties.

Export Packaging & Compliance



Packaging Types

- Food-Grade Vacuum-sealed packs (100g-1kg)
- Moisture-Proof Poly Packs with Branding
- Carton Boxes (Bulk export 10320 kg)
- Eco-friendly Paper Packaging (for crafts)

Required Labeling

Product name, weight, ingredients, expiry date, manufacturer/exporter information, and appropriate HS code must be clearly indicated on all packaging for export compliance.

Challenges & Future Outlook

Market Challenges

- Strong competition from Vietnam, Thailand, and China
- Lack of large-scale manufacturing units in India
- Strict quality & hygiene standards for edible rice paper

Operational Hurdles

- Transportation&moisture control issues
- Rice paper absorbs moisture easily, creating preservation challenges
- Awareness & branding gap in international markets

Opportunity Areas

- Developing **specialized rice paper** for unique Indian applications
Leveraging India's **organic rice**
- **production** for premium products
Creating **value-added innovations** in the
- craft segment

Despite challenges, India's abundant rice production and growing manufacturing capabilities position it well to develop a stronger presence in the global rice paper market.

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