**Title:**  
*Comparative Studies of Different Rice Mills Present in Konkan Region*

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**Region Covered:**  
Raigad District, Konkan Region, Maharashtra

**Objective:**  
To conduct a comparative analysis of rice milling practices, technologies, efficiency, and operational challenges across various rice mills in the Konkan region, with a focus on Raigad district.

**Methodology:**

* Surveyed and studied **36 rice mills** across Raigad.
* Data collected through structured interviews, on-site visits, and questionnaires.
* Parameters assessed: milling capacity, type of milling (traditional vs. modern), parboiling practices, energy consumption, labor usage, yield recovery, infrastructure, and economic viability.

**Key Findings:**

* **Technology Usage:** 60% of the mills use semi-modern machinery; only 15% have fully modernized systems. Traditional huller-based mills still persist in remote areas.
* **Yield Recovery:** Modern mills achieved up to 68–72% recovery, whereas traditional mills had 60–65%.
* **Energy Efficiency:** Mills with automated systems were significantly more energy-efficient, reducing both cost and time.
* **Labor Dependency:** Traditional mills remain labor-intensive, while modern mills employ minimal manpower due to automation.
* **Challenges Faced:** Frequent power outages, lack of skilled labor, high machinery maintenance cost, and limited access to government subsidies or modernization schemes.

**Conclusion:**  
The study highlights a stark contrast between traditional and modern rice milling practices in Raigad. While modernization improves efficiency and profitability, many mills still operate under outdated systems due to financial and infrastructural constraints. A focused policy intervention is required to support the upgrade of traditional mills, improve technical training, and ensure equitable access to subsidies and credit facilities.

**Recommendations:**

* Promote awareness about government schemes for mill modernization.
* Provide low-interest loans and subsidies for upgrading machinery.
* Organize technical workshops and training for local operators.
* Develop reliable power supply solutions in rural zones.

**Keywords:** Rice mills, Konkan, Raigad, milling efficiency, modernization, traditional practices