

ABSTRACT

The availability of food in a region is determined by its origin—domestic production, food reserves, and imports. According to Law No. 11 of 2020 Concerning Job Creation, the Job Creation Law increases Indonesia's dependence on imports and direct integration with the global food system, independent of production data or domestic food reserves. This study aims to ascertain the impact of national rice production, national rice consumption, government rice reserves, relative import prices, inflation, and food availability on rice imports and food availability in Indonesia. It also analyzes which factors are the leading economic indicators for Indonesia to import rice in the six main countries of origin, namely Vietnam, Thailand, China, India, Pakistan, and Myanmar between 2011 and 2020. This study uses quantitative methods using secondary data and using panel data regression analysis with the Random Effects Model approach. The results of the research show (1) that domestic rice production, domestic rice consumption, government rice reserves, relative import prices and inflation simultaneously have a significant effect on rice imports and food availability in Indonesia. (2) domestic rice production, domestic rice consumption, government rice reserves, and inflation did not have a partial significant effect, while import prices partially had a negative and significant effect on rice imports and food availability in Indonesia in 2011-2020. This means that Indonesia has been importing rice because the cost of rice from abroad is relatively less expensive than rice from within the country and because there is allegedly a conspiracy. Indonesia's leading economic indicator therefore imports rice in 6 main countries of origin for the period of 2011 to 2020. Mafia of rice or other food commodities with related parties with the aim of making huge profits.

Keywords: *Food Availability, Rice Imports, Job Creation Law, Relative Import Prices.*

