



AIREA News – 5th September 2026

1. ‘AI playing big role in agri, food sectors’

Artificial Intelligence is increasingly transforming agriculture and food businesses by improving data analysis, reducing wastage and enhancing decision-making. Industry experts believe that faster adoption of AI and digital technologies will improve productivity, resource utilisation and overall efficiency across the agri-food value chain.

2. Govt set to assess UK FTA rollout, exporters to flag trade hurdles

The Commerce Ministry will review the implementation of the India-UK CETA, focusing on the utilisation of tariff concessions and challenges faced by exporters. Exporters are expected to highlight procedural and compliance-related hurdles in accessing the benefits of zero-duty access to the UK market.

3. New FTAs Open Big Export Gains Across Key Sectors

Eight new Free Trade Agreements signed over the last five years have created significant duty-free export opportunities for Indian sectors including agriculture, electronics, gems and jewellery. Agriculture alone has gained access to an estimated \$631 billion market opportunity, with further potential expected from upcoming EU and New Zealand trade agreements.

4. ‘Start paddy purchase from Sept 15 or will block NH-44’

Farmer leader Gurnam Singh Charuni has warned that farmers will launch an indefinite blockade of NH-44 from September 16 if Haryana does not begin paddy procurement from September 15. Farmers cited the availability of early-maturing paddy varieties and demanded timely procurement arrangements.

5. QR tags to track rice consignments in Pb

Punjab will introduce QR tags on rice bags during the upcoming paddy procurement season to digitally track consignments from rice mills to storage facilities and fair price shops. The system aims to improve transparency, prevent diversion and pilferage, and strengthen monitoring under the Public Distribution System.

6. Govt in touch with Centre for smooth paddy purchase: CM

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said the state government is coordinating with the Centre to ensure smooth paddy procurement. He assured that procurement would proceed without difficulty, provided farmers bring produce meeting the prescribed moisture-content norms.