



AIREA News – 1st October 2026

1. Rice industry looks forward for next 'billion-dollar opportunity'

India's rice industry is looking beyond raw-grain exports towards higher-value products such as rice noodles, bran oil, protein, specialised ingredients and rice-husk-based materials. The upcoming Bharat International Rice Conference (BIRC) 2026 will assess products with strong demand, margins and export potential.

2. Goyal invites US manufacturers to invest in India at G20 trade meet

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal invited US manufacturers to expand their presence in India, partner with Indian SMEs and invest in advanced manufacturing. Discussions also covered resilient global supply chains, forced labour, food trade and excess production capacity.

3. How the reforms bus bypassed India's farms

The article highlights that agriculture has benefited less from India's economic reforms than other sectors, with farm-sector growth remaining relatively slow. Experts point to policy uncertainty, MSP dependence, fragmented markets, limited private investment and Centre-State responsibilities as key challenges.

4. Agriculture: Strong reform intentions, but little progress

Despite several reform attempts since the 1990s, agriculture continues to face structural constraints, including weak market linkages, inadequate investment and limited diversification. The article notes that delayed reforms have contributed to agriculture's declining share in GDP and continued dependence on government intervention.

5. India's exports reach \$399 bn, eyes \$1 trn next year: Report

India's merchandise and services exports reached about \$399 billion during April–August 2026, putting the country on course towards the \$1 trillion annual export target. Growth was supported by merchandise exports, services, electronics and broader market penetration, including strong gains in several Asian markets.

6. 'EU making efforts to treat basmati rice as a generic variety'

The article reports concerns that efforts within the EU could weaken India's protected geographical indication (PGI) status for basmati rice. India and Pakistan have unresolved GI-related issues with the EU, while Indian stakeholders are seeking protection for basmati's distinct geographical identity and premium positioning.

7. Bathinda admin chalks out plan to manage 8.5-lakh tonne paddy straw

Bathinda authorities have prepared a plan to manage around 8.5 lakh tonnes of paddy biomass, with pellet-making units expected to utilise more than 4.5 lakh tonnes for industrial boilers and thermal plants. The administration aims to further reduce stubble-burning incidents through in-situ and ex-situ management.

8. Govt raises MSP for Rabi crops including wheat, mustard, lentil

The government increased the Minimum Support Prices for all mandated Rabi crops for the 2027–28 marketing season. The highest increase is for safflower, while wheat, mustard and lentil also received higher MSPs, with the government stating that the revised prices provide returns above the estimated cost of production.

9. Market Update – 1 Oct

USD/INR: Broadly range-bound; RBI intervention and softer crude are limiting rupee weakness. US GDP and labour-market data will guide dollar direction.

EUR/INR: Euro remains under pressure as elevated US yields support the dollar. Eurozone CPI will be the key near-term trigger.

Trade Insight: Currency markets remain data-driven, with **USD/INR likely to stay range-bound** while **EUR remains relatively softer against the dollar**.