



AIREA News: 26th October 2026

1. Indian Rice Gains Edge Over Global Rivals on Lower Prices

India's rice exports increased 13% in value to ₹54,937.71 crore during the first half of the current fiscal year. IREF expects shipments to exceed 24 million tonnes this year, supported by competitive prices, surplus stocks and rising global demand, while urging the government to maintain the existing export policy.

2. Despite El Nino threat, India's rice exports go up by 13% this fiscal

India's rice exports are expected to grow further as Indian rice is approximately 10% cheaper than competing supplies from Thailand and Myanmar. However, prolonged conflict in the Middle East, particularly the Iranian crisis, could affect demand and payment flows.

3. Paddy farmers stare at bigger losses after fresh rain

Untimely rain, thunderstorms and hailstorms across Punjab have further delayed paddy harvesting and procurement. Farmers in districts including Fazilka, Muktsar, Sangrur, Barnala, Bathinda and Mansa fear heavier losses as crops are damaged or remain exposed in grain markets.

4. Agri experts advise farmers to cultivate rabi crops early

Erratic monsoon rainfall has affected Goa's kharif paddy crop, prompting agricultural experts to recommend early rabi sowing while soil moisture remains. Farmers are also being encouraged to grow pulses and other low-water crops, supported by demonstration plots and better water management.

5. Dy. CM warns of reduced food production after 80% crop loss

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister G. Parameshwara warned that drought conditions have caused crop losses of up to 80% in certain regions, threatening future food production. He urged the prompt release of farmer compensation and called on the Centre and State to coordinate drought-relief measures.

6. Centre extends scheme to fund post-harvest infrastructure

The Union government has extended the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund scheme until 31 March 2027, allowing more time for eligible agricultural infrastructure projects. The scheme supports facilities such as warehouses, cold storages and grading units to reduce post-harvest losses and improve farmers' market access.

7. US-India trade deal in slow lane despite Rubio's optimism

The India-US interim trade agreement remains stalled over Washington's proposed tariffs and demands for agricultural concessions. New Delhi is unwilling to accept the proposed 18% tariff framework and may defer further decisions until after the US midterm elections.

8. We urge Indian biz to expand trade with Tehran: Envoy

Iran's ambassador to India urged Indian businesses to continue and expand bilateral trade despite US sanctions and payment disruptions. He said Iran does not expect shortages of essential goods, including Indian basmati rice, and highlighted opportunities in energy, agriculture and other sectors.



9. Iran Speaker pulls out of Brics event

Iranian Parliament Speaker Mohammad-Bagher Qalibaf has withdrawn from the upcoming BRICS parliamentary forum meeting in India, citing unforeseen circumstances. The Iranian embassy confirmed that an Iranian parliamentary delegation would still participate in the meeting.

10. Tamil Nadu feels the pinch as rice prices skyrocket

Prices of superfine rice varieties in Tamil Nadu have risen to ₹75–90 per kg due to limited supplies from neighbouring states, lower crop yields and higher input costs. The State government plans to sell around 25,000 metric tonnes of fine-quality raw and parboiled rice to help control prices.

11. FIR against Indri arhtiya exposes lapses in procurement

An FIR has been registered against a commission agent in Indri, Haryana, after two tractor-trailers carrying around 160 quintals of paddy from suspected outside-state sources were intercepted. The incident has raised concerns about the monitoring of procurement and the alleged misuse of registration and gate-pass systems to sell paddy at MSP.

12. Paddy arrival nears 5.7 LMT; 32% purchased stock awaits lifting

Ludhiana district has recorded paddy arrivals of 5,69,895 metric tonnes, of which approximately 97% has been purchased. However, 32% of the purchased stock is still awaiting lifting, prompting farmers to seek quicker transportation and timely payments to make room for fresh arrivals.

13.. Defying tariff odds

India's latest trade figures highlight the need to diversify export markets and pursue more free trade agreements. Although exports to the US and China have increased, tariff uncertainty, non-tariff barriers and geopolitical risks continue to challenge Indian exporters across several sectors.

14.. Farmers in Heroor suffer losses as heavy rains inundate paddy fields

More than 100 acres of paddy fields in Heroor and nearby villages were flooded after heavy rain and water accumulation linked to a vented dam at Baikady. Harvested paddy has been washed away in some fields, while standing crops have been submerged, causing significant losses to farmers.

15. Market Trade Insight – 26 October 2026

USDINR: The rupee may remain under pressure due to elevated crude oil prices, importer dollar demand and FPI outflows. RBI measures may provide some support, but volatility is likely to persist.

EURINR: The pair is expected to remain range-bound with a mild positive bias. Eurozone economic data, ECB policy signals and movements in the US dollar will guide near-term direction.