AIREA News: 8th September 2026

1. Govt. set to review export promotion schemes

The government is set to review the over ₹25,000-crore Export Promotion Mission (EPM), rolled out in February 2026, after finding exporters showed substantial interest in only two of its 11 schemes. Spending under the mission is planned to rise to ₹3,710 crore in FY27 from ₹2,250 crore in FY26, with officials citing lower utilisation, scheme design and competition from state-level schemes as reasons for the limited uptake.

2. U.S. tariffs are not what is holding back Indian research

An opinion piece in The Hindu argues that the sectors most exposed to U.S. tariffs — metals, auto components and chemicals — barely overlap with the sectors where India actually invests in research, mainly pharmaceuticals and automobiles. The real constraint is India's persistently low R&D spending compared with global peers, and the piece calls for better measurement and targeted incentives rather than blaming tariffs alone.

3. CM seeks major UAE, Tatarstan investments across key sectors

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav held meetings in Dubai to attract investment from UAE and Tatarstan officials across manufacturing, food processing, agriculture, logistics and healthcare. Discussions also covered a joint review mechanism, project-ready mandates, and cooperation on skill development and digital technologies ahead of the Global Investors Summit 2027.

4. Gujarat deploys AI tool for paddy quality check

Gujarat has introduced AI-based grain analysers at 10 paddy procurement centres across four districts on a pilot basis to make MSP procurement more transparent and quality-driven. Of 6,191 paddy samples examined, 54.6% were graded 'A' and 45.4% 'Common', while 341 samples were rejected, with Dholka recording the highest rejection rate at 24%. The system checks for foreign matter, damaged or discoloured grains and moisture content, needs only one person per centre versus two under the earlier manual system, and the pilot covered 13,334 farmer registrations across the 10 centres.

5. Surge in registrations for Bharat International Rice Meet

The Bharat International Rice Conference (BIRC) 2026, to be held in New Delhi from October 23-25, is drawing strong global interest as buyers diversify sourcing amid geopolitical uncertainty. Till August, 3,317 buyers from 138 countries had registered, and about 37% of surveyed overseas buyers said instability in the Gulf had affected their participation decisions for international trade events.

6. CWC integrated logistics push to cut agri-export losses

Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is working to offer integrated, farm-gate-to-customer logistics solutions for agricultural exporters to cut India's high post-harvest losses. The push includes commodity-specific cold storage, international-standard phytosanitary certification, and digital and AI-based container tracking, alongside a collaboration with IIT Delhi to improve supply-chain visibility and compliance.

7. Rice millers dispute stock estimates ahead of paddy procurement

Punjab rice millers have disputed the state's stock estimates a day after the Custom Milling Policy allowed millers who delivered 90% of last year's paddy allocation to receive fresh stock. Industry bodies say most millers can process only about 70% of their paddy and may miss the 90% delivery target, with roughly 14 lakh tonnes of custom-milled rice still undelivered and state godowns nearly full.

8. Kharif sowing 2% lower than a year ago

The area under kharif crops reached 1,086.31 lakh hectares as of September 4, down 2% from 1,104.01 lakh hectares a year ago, with paddy acreage down 3.7% at 421.82 lakh hectares against 438.19 lakh hectares last year. Oilseeds, sugarcane, nutri-cereals and cotton coverage also slipped, while pulses acreage rose 1.6%, as lower rainfall in states such as Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra weighed on the sowing pace.

MARKET TRADE INSIGHT

USDINR: The rupee is seeing a neutral-to-mildly-bullish tone for the dollar, with RBI dollar selling and strong FCNR inflows lending support to the INR. However, firm crude oil prices, elevated geopolitical risk and stronger-than-expected US labour data keeping Fed rate-hike expectations alive are capping the extent of rupee appreciation.

EURINR: The euro is holding steady, supported by expectations of a further ECB rate hike, though continued strength in the dollar on the back of robust US labour data is limiting further upside for the single currency against the rupee.

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