

Artificial Intelligence to help Indian Tobacco Board in grading

Subjectivity to make way for objectivity in assessing tobacco quality

By BL Hyderabad Bureau | August 10, 2026

Tobacco Board, which works under the aegis of the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry has teamed up with Constems AI Private Ltd to introduce AI-powered grading of Flue-Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco bales across a few auction platforms in Andhra Pradesh.

This will help remove subjectivity in judging tobacco quality and ensure better returns for farmers. The results are delivered instantly on the grader's mobile application, enabling faster and more consistent decision-making at the auction platform.



FCV tobacco grading is currently handled manually by qualified classifiers | Photo Credit: th-online Administrator

"The collaboration will use computer vision and deep learning to make tobacco grading faster, more consistent and more transparent," Amit Srivastava, Co-Founder and CTO, Constems AI, said.

Human judgment

FCV tobacco grading is currently handled manually by qualified classifiers. While the process is backed by domain expertise, it remains dependent on human judgment and can be susceptible to subjectivity and inconsistency.

"Since the grade assigned to a tobacco bale directly influences its market value, a standardized and technology-supported grading framework has become increasingly important," he said in a statement here on Monday.

Constems AI's CAInatics, a Vision AI engine, and 3N, its Large Vision Modal Model (LVMM), to analyse images of tobacco bales and grade them.

While it assures farmers an objective assessment of their produce, it helps buyers and auction officials improve traceability, reduce variation and support faster assessment across large volumes of tobacco bales.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/agri-business/ai-to-help-tobacco-board-grade-tobacco/article71328252.ece>