

F.NO. 3-1/2007-NCFC – E&S
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION
(NATIONAL CROP FORECASTING CENTRE)

Room no. 344-A, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated, the 17th April, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 11.04.2008.**

Presentations in the meeting

Rainfall & Temperature (As reported by India Meteorological Department, (IMD))

Pre-Monsoon Rainfall (March - May) during the week ending on 09th April, 2008

- **Fairly widespread rain/thundershower accompanied with isolated hail / squall** occurred over Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi and Rajasthan during 4th to 6th April, 08. Thereafter **scattered rain / thundershower** continued over Jammu & Kashmir.
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- **Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Sub- Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Assam and Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh on 3rd & 4th April, 08, Jharkhand & Bihar on 4th April, 08, Gangetic West Bengal during 4th - 6th April, 08 and Orissa and Chhattisgarh on 5th & 6th April, 08.
- **Isolated heavy rainfall** also occurred over Coastal Orissa on 6th April, 08.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 28 sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 6 sub-divisions and no rain in 2 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative winter rainfall (1st March to 09th April, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 27 and deficient / scanty in 9 sub-divisions.

Table-1: Weekly and Cumulative Rainfall in four regions of the country¹

| Region | Week Ending (09.04.08) | | | | Cumulative (01.03.08 to 09.04.08) | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------|
| | (in mm) | | Devi. (%) | Cat. | (in mm) | | Devi. (%) | Cat. |
| | Actual | Normal | | | Actual | Normal | | |
| North-West India | 17.7 | 7.4 | 139 | E | 21.7 | 59.6 | -64 | S |
| Central India | 8.1 | 2.3 | 244 | E | 27.5 | 12.8 | 115 | E |
| South Peninsular India | 7.6 | 5.8 | 30 | E | 139.7 | 20.3 | 588 | E |
| North-East India | 16.0 | 23.4 | -32 | D | 76.4 | 91.5 | -16 | N |
| Country as a whole | 12.2 | 7.9 | 53 | E | 55.6 | 41.2 | 35 | E |

E: Excess, N: Normal, D: Deficient, S: Scanty, NR: No Rain.
Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

1. *North-west India - Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, Punjab, Uttaranchal, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir.*
Central India - Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra and Gujarat
South Peninsula - Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry, Kerala and Lakshadweep.
North-east India - Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Bengal, Sikkim, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

Temperature

Maximum

- They were **below normal** over most of the sub-divisions in Northwest, West, Central & East India in the beginning of the week. With the **gradual rise** in temperature they became near normal towards the end of the week.
- They were also **below normal** over Interior Peninsula during many days of the week.
- The maximum temperatures were **above normal** over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and Northeastern states during second half of the week.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 11th – 17th April, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 16th April, 2008

- *Under the influence of a **western disturbance**, scattered rain/thundershowers is likely over Western Himalayan region during first half of the week.*
- *Isolated light rain/thundershower is also likely over Punjab and Haryana on 11th & 12th April, 08. **Another western disturbance** is likely to affect Western Himalayan region from 14th April, 08 onwards.*
- *The gradual rise in maximum temperature is likely to continue over plains of Northwest India and central India during first 2-3 days of the week.*
- *In association with a trough of low pressure area and an upper cyclonic circulation over southwest Bay of Bengal, scattered rain/thundershower is likely over extreme south peninsula during first half of the week.*
- *Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershower activity is likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and Northeastern states during 12th -14th April, 08.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

North & North-West India (J&K, HP, Uttaranchal, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, West UP)

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers likely over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand during 16-17th April, 08. Another Western Disturbance will cause scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers during 15th – 17th April, 08.*
- *Isolated to scattered rain/thundershowers likely over the rest region during 15th – 17th April, 2008.*

East & NE India (East UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Orissa, NE States)

- *Rain/thundershower is likely at a few places over over Sub Himalyan West Bengal & Sikkim.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers likely over Gangetic West Bengal and Orissa.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the region.*

South India (Tamil Nadu, AP, Kerala, Karnataka, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep)

- *Rain/thundershower is likely at a few places over Nicobar Islands, South Tamilnadu, Kerala and Lakshadweep during 11th –13th April, 08 and decrease thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers likely over North Tamilnadu, Andaman Islands.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

West India (Maharashtra, Other than Vidarbha, Gujarat, Rajasthan)

- *Mainly dry weather is expected over rest of the region*

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 10.04.2008)

- The **Central Water Commission** monitors the live storage of **81** important/major reservoirs, having Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of **151.77** billion cubic meters (BCM), which is about 72% of total reservoir capacity in the country.
- Water stock in 81 major reservoirs decreased to 46.69 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 50.77 BCM and more than the average of last 10 year's storage of 36.81 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

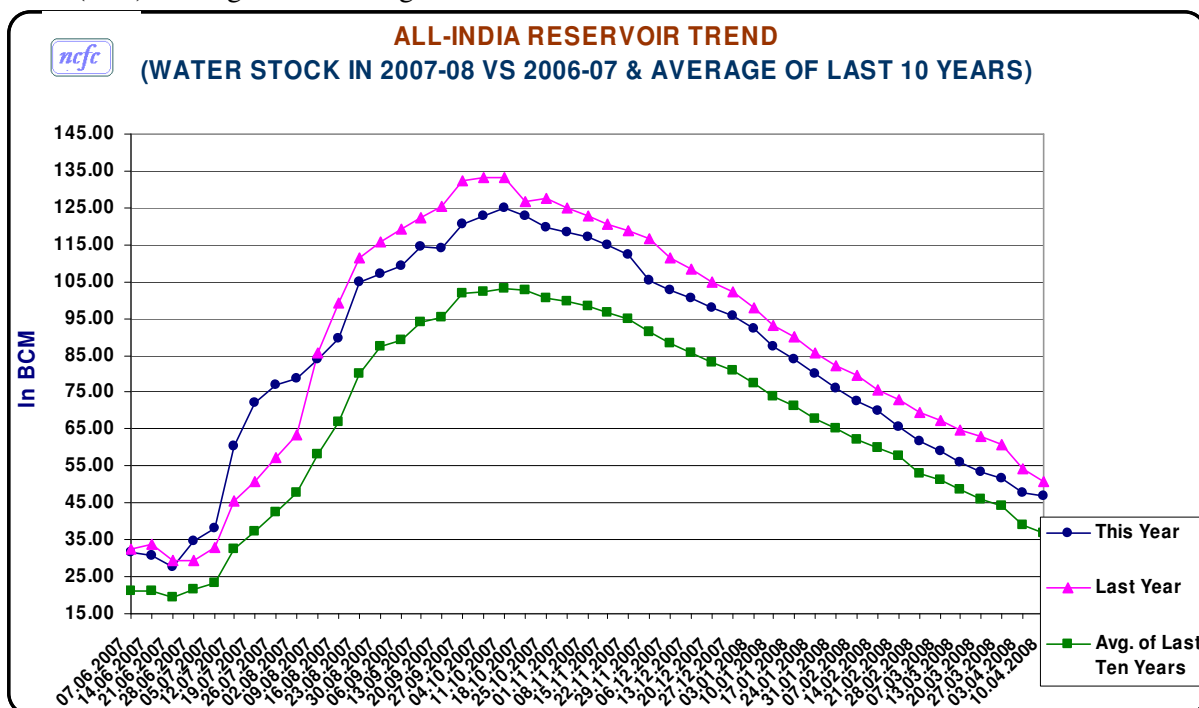
| Period | Current Year's Storage as % of FRL* | Current Year's storage as % of last year | Current year as a % of 10 years average level |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| Current Week | 31 | 92 | 127 |
| Last Week | 31 | 88 | 121 |

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 33% on 10/04/2007, 29% on 10/04/2006, 19% on 10/04/2005 and 17% on 10/04/2004 .

* Live storage as % to Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 151.77 Billion Cub. Mts.(BCM)

Source: CWC

- There were 67 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 6 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 4 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were two reservoirs namely Sholayar (TN) and Yeldari (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and two reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP) and Konar (Jhar) having no live storage.



Source: Central Water Commission

Fertilizer Position:

Table – 3: Requirement, Availability, Sales and Stock position of Major Fertilizers Urea, DAP and MOP during 1st to 31st March, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

| <i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i> | <i>Urea</i> | <i>DAP</i> | <i>MOP</i> |
|---|-------------|------------|------------|
| <i>Requirement for April, 2008</i> | <i>906</i> | <i>376</i> | <i>151</i> |
| <i>Availability during 1st to 31st Mar., 08</i> | <i>3531</i> | <i>762</i> | <i>297</i> |
| <i>Sales during 1st to 31st Mar., 08</i> | <i>2276</i> | <i>531</i> | <i>196</i> |
| <i>Closing Stock as on 31.03.2008</i> | <i>1255</i> | <i>231</i> | <i>101</i> |
| <i>Requirement for March, 2008</i> | <i>1236</i> | <i>414</i> | <i>189</i> |

Source: Fertilizer Division (DAC) / Deptt. of Fertilizer

Pest & Diseases:

- The incidence of pest & diseases generally remained below Economic Threshold Level (ETL) for most of the crops.
- No shortage of Chemical / Bio-pesticides reported from any State / UT.

Table:4

| All India Crop Situation - Rabi (2007-08) as on 11-04-2008 | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------|------------|--|
| Crop Name | Normal Area | Area sown reported | | | Change vis-à-vis prev. year | | Remarks |
| | | This Year | % of Normal | Last Year | Absolute | Percentage | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Wheat | 262.00 | 277.48 | 105.9 | 282.14 | -4.66 | -1.7 | Bih (-0.6, -2.3), Guj (+1.9, +16.1), Har (+1.0, +4.0), MP (-5.6, -13.1), Maha(+0.2, +1.8), Raj (+0.3, +1.2), UP (-2.4, -2.6), WB (+0.5, +14.3) |
| Rice | 37.32 | 43.41 | 116.3 | 41.37 | 2.04 | 4.9 | AP (+0.4, +2.9), Ass (+0.1, +4.4), Kar (+0.7, +25.8), Ori (+0.2, +4.8), WB (+0.5, +3.6) |
| Jowar | 50.29 | 46.74 | 92.9 | 49.39 | -2.65 | -5.4 | AP(-0.4, -15.2), Kar (-0.2, -1.3), Maha (-1.8, -5.8), TN (-0.3, -6.7) |
| Maize | 7.45 | 10.70 | 143.6 | 10.29 | 0.41 | 4.0 | AP (+0.8, +39.3), Bih (-0.6, -15.1), Guj (+0.1, +17.9) |
| Barley | 6.53 | 7.57 | 115.9 | 7.88 | -0.31 | -3.9 | MP (-0.2, -24.1), Raj (-0.1, -3.0) |
| Total Coarse Cereals | 64.27 | 68.19 | 106.1 | 70.61 | -2.42 | -3.4 | AP (+0.4, +8.1), Bih (-0.6, -14.6), Kar (-0.3, -2.4), MP (-0.2, -23.2), Maha (-1.8, -5.8) |
| Total Cereals | 363.59 | 389.08 | 107.0 | 394.12 | -5.04 | -1.3 | |
| Gram | 66.02 | 80.39 | 121.8 | 84.02 | -3.63 | -4.3 | Ass(-0.4, -100.0), Chhat (+0.3, +10.7), Kar (-0.6, -7.8), MP (-2.9, -10.6), Maha (+0.4, +3.2), Raj (+1.3, +11.1), UP (-2.0, -24.6) |
| Lentil | 14.44 | 14.01 | 97.0 | 15.46 | -1.46 | -9.4 | Bih (-0.3, -10.1), MP (-0.4, -7.9), UP (-0.8, -12.2) |
| Peas | 7.18 | 6.77 | 94.4 | 8.22 | -1.45 | -17.7 | MP (-0.5, -19.9), UP(-1.0, -24.2) |
| Kulthi(Horse Gram) | 3.20 | 5.70 | 177.8 | 6.24 | -0.55 | -8.7 | Kar (-1.0, -43.5), TN (+0.5, +143.2) |
| Urad | 7.53 | 8.80 | 116.9 | 8.39 | 0.41 | 4.9 | AP (-0.1, -3.4), Ass (+0.4, +100.0), Ori (+0.1, +3.9) |
| Moong | 6.04 | 7.32 | 121.2 | 7.24 | 0.08 | 1.1 | AP (-0.2, -14.2), Kar (+0.1, +200.0), Ori (+0.2, +4.3), TN(-0.3, -31.8), WB (+0.2, +100.0) |
| Lathyrus | 6.49 | 5.26 | 81.1 | 4.50 | 0.76 | 17.0 | Chhat (+0.3, +7.0), WB (+0.5, +100.0) |
| Total Pulses | 113.53 | 135.16 | 119.1 | 142.25 | -7.09 | -5.0 | AP (-0.4, -3.1), Chhat (+0.7, +8.1), Jhar (-0.4, -31.7), Kar (-1.6, -14.6), MP (-3.7, -10.5), Maha(+0.4, +2.7), Raj (+1.3, +10.6), UP (-3.8, -20.3) |
| Total Foodgrains | 477.12 | 524.24 | 109.9 | 536.37 | -12.13 | -2.3 | |
| Rapeseed & Mustard | 59.28 | 59.63 | 100.6 | 66.10 | -6.47 | -9.8 | Ass (-0.2, -6.8), Bih (-0.3, -15.8), Guj (-0.2, -5.3), Har (-0.8, -12.7), MP (-1.6, -22.4), Raj (-4.2, -14.4), UP (+0.2, +3.0), WB (+0.2, +3.4) |
| Groundnut | 8.16 | 12.71 | 155.7 | 10.85 | 1.86 | 17.1 | AP (+0.5, +20.0), Guj (+0.4, +36.8), Kar (+0.1, +6.9), TN (+0.6, +23.8) |
| Safflower | 3.74 | 3.15 | 84.2 | 3.41 | -0.26 | -7.6 | Kar (-0.1, -14.9), Maha (-0.2, -7.3), |
| Sunflower | 12.16 | 11.30 | 92.9 | 12.65 | -1.35 | -10.7 | AP (-0.2, -4.9), Har (+0.1, +60.0), Kar (-1.0, -16.6), Maha (-0.5, -25.2), TN (+0.2, +137.5) |
| Sesamum | 16.77 | 3.52 | 21.0 | 3.29 | 0.23 | 7.0 | AP (-0.1, -28.6), TN (-0.2, -31.7), WB (+0.5, +33.3) |
| Linseed | 4.70 | 4.91 | 104.5 | 5.20 | -0.29 | -5.6 | MP(-0.2, -14.6), UP (-0.1, -24.4) |
| Total Oilseed (Nine) | 88.04 | 96.82 | 110.0 | 102.66 | -5.84 | -5.7 | Bih (-0.3, -13.8), Guj (+0.4, +7.7), Har (-0.7, -10.9), Kar (-1.0, -11.7), MP (-1.4, -15.5), Maha (-1.0, -14.8), Raj (-4.2, -14.4), TN (+0.7, +18.9), WB (+0.8, +11.8) |
| All- Crops | 565.15 | 621.06 | 109.9 | 639.03 | -17.97 | -2.8 | |

Source: Crops & TMOP Divisions, DAC

Price Situation of Agricultural Commodities as submitted by the Department of Consumer Affairs

Inflation

The all-commodity inflation rate based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) on a point to point basis for the week ending 29.03.2008 increased by 0.41% percentage points to 7.41% from the previous week level of 7.00%. The inflation rate was 5.94% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **declined** by 0.07% to 8.89%, (b) Manufactured products increased group by 0.81% to 7.12% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 0.04% to 6.65%. The share of these three groups in inflation during this weekend stood in the order of 27.11%, 53.53% and 19.42%.

Table – 5: Retail prices of Essential Agricultural Commodities at Delhi

| (Rs. Per Kg.) | | | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Items | Current price 10.04.08 | 1 week ago 03.04.08 | Fortnight ago 27.03.08 | 1 month ago 10.03.08 | 1 year ago 10.04.07 | % Variation 10.04.08 over 10.04.07 |
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) |
| Rice | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 15.00 | 20.0 |
| Wheat | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 | 13.00 | 12.00 | 8.3 |
| Atta | 14.00 | 14.00 | 14.00 | 14.00 | 13.00 | 7.7 |
| Gram Dal | 38.00 | 38.00 | 38.00 | 39.00 | 33.00 | 15.2 |
| Tur Dal | 42.00 | 42.00 | 42.00 | 42.00 | 38.00 | 10.5 |
| Sugar | 18.00 | 18.00 | 18.00 | 17.00 | 18.00 | Steady |
| Groundnut Oil | 121.00 | 121.00 | 121.00 | 121.00 | 99.00 | 22.2 |
| Mustard Oil | 73.00 | 73.00 | 79.00 | 87.00 | 56.00 | 30.4 |
| Vanaspati | 75.00 | 74.00 | 79.00 | 79.00 | 56.00 | 33.9 |
| Tea (Loose) | 107.00 | 107.00 | 107.00 | 108.00 | 108.00 | -0.9 |
| Milk | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 20.00 | 18.00 | 11.1 |
| Potato | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.00 | 8.50 | 9.00 | -11.1 |
| Onion | 9.00 | 10.00 | 10.00 | 9.00 | 12.00 | -25.0 |

- Source : Department of food and Civil Supplies, Delhi

During the week, prices of the many essential agricultural commodities namely Rice, Wheat, Atta, Gram Dal, Tur dal, Sugar, Groundnut Oil, Mustard oil, Tea (Loose), Milk and Potato remained at the same level as they were last week. Rise in prices was noted in **Vanaspati** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 1.4%). Fall in prices was noted in **Onion** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 10.0%).

As compared to the last year, prices of Sugar remained steady. Increase in prices was noted in **Rice** (Rs. 3.00 per kg, 20.0%), **Wheat** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 8.3%), **Atta** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 7.7%), **Gram dal** (Rs. 5.00 per kg, 15.2%), **Tur dal** (Rs. 4.00 per kg, 10.5%), **Mustard Oil** (Rs. 17.00 per ltr., 30.4%), **Groundnut Oil** (Rs. 22.00 per ltr, 22.2%), **Vanaspati** (Rs. 19.00 per ltr, 33.9%) and **Milk** (Rs. 2.00 per ltr, 11.1%); decrease in price of **Tea (Loose)** (Re. 1.00 per kg, (-)0.9%), **Potato** (Re. 1.00 per kg, (-) 11.1%) and **Onion** (Rs. 3.00 per kg, (-)25.0%) was observed.

Procurement :**Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 04.04.2008 (lakh tonnes)**

| State | Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.) | Progressive Procurement as on 04.04.2008 | |
|----------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
| | | In Marketing season 2007-2008 | In Marketing season 2006-2007 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 53.27 | 37.43 | 27.09 |
| Chhattisgarh | 28.58 | 27.15 | 25.14 |
| Haryana | 17.73 | 15.69 | 17.73 |
| Kerala | 1.51 | 0.99 | 0.90 |
| Maharashtra | 0.96 | 1.22 | 0.89 |
| Orissa | 19.93 | 16.21 | 13.92 |
| Punjab | 78.28 | 77.79 | 78.03 |
| Tamil Nadu | 10.78 | 6.66 | 10.01 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 25.49 | 25.71 | 21.01 |
| Uttaranchal | 1.76 | 1.44 | 1.59 |
| West Bengal | 6.44 | 4.21 | 4.75 |
| All-India | 250.75 | 219.52 | 206.11 |