

F.NO. 3-1/2008-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 07th August, 2008

SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD ON 01.08.2008.

A copy of the summary proceedings of the meeting of Crop Weather Watch Group held on 01st August, 2008 is enclosed. This issues with the approval of the Chairman.

(Dr. Dalip Singh)
Dy. Stat. Adviser

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD ON 01.08.2008.

The weekly meeting of the Crop Weather Watch Group (CWWG) was held on 01.08.2008 under the Chairmanship of Shri R.C. Ray, E.S.A., DES. The Agenda included discussion on weather, progress in crop sowing, availability of inputs, pest situation, price and procurement position. Salient aspects covered in the meeting are given from page 4 onwards.

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Good rainfall activity was observed over most parts of the country during the week ending 30.7.2008.*
- *Areas which were deficient/scanty so far received excess rainfall during the week. Entire Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat got good rainfall.*
- *Fairly widespread rain/thundershowers occurred over Konkan & Goa, South Interior Karnataka, Kerala, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, North Interior Karnataka, Telangana, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Chhattisgrah, Vidarbha, Gujarat state, East Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh, Northeastern States, West Bengal & Sikkim, Jharkhand, Bihar, East Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh during the week.*
- *Rainfall received during the period 1st June to 30th July, 08 was 436.7 mm i.e. around 2% less than normal. It was excess/normal in 26 met sub-divisions and deficient/scanty in 10 met sub-divisions. While significant amount of rainfall has been received in North-west India (27% above normal), it was less than normal in Central India (-9%) and South Peninsula (-20%). In North-east India, it was marginally below normal (-3%).*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient / scanty rainfall include Assam & Meghalaya (-28%), NMMT (-29%), Gujarat Region (-32%), Saurashtra & Kutch (-21%), Madhya Maharashtra (-38%), Marathwada(-48%), Telangana (-20%), Coastal Karnataka (-29%), North Interior Karnataka (-39%), and Kerala (-33%).*
- *As on 1.8.08, area sown under all kharif crops at All India level has been reported to be 719.06 lakh hectares as compared to 767.21 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007. Increase in area sown has been reported under Rice and Soyabean. Area sown has declined for Jowar, Cotton, Sugarcane, Oilseeds and Pulses. A comparative statement on area sown under various kharif crops is attached.*
- *Seed position is reported to be comfortable. Arrangements have been made to make available seeds of suitable crops varieties where late sowing may be required due to deficient rainfall.*

- *The incidence of pests & diseases generally remained below Threshold Level (TL) for most of the crops.*
- *The all-commodity inflation rate based on Wholesale Price Index (WPI) on a point to point basis for the week ending 19.07.2008 increased by 0.09 percentage points to 11.98% from the previous week's level of 11.89%. The inflation rate was 4.65% during the corresponding period last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 19.07.2008 decreased to 5.45% from the previous week's level of 5.57%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has declined by 0.20% and stood at 4.86% and rice has decreased to 7.18% i.e. a decrease of 0.99% points.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI marginally increased to 15.50% from the previous week's level of 16.53% and for the food items, it increased to 5.78% from the previous week's level of 5.41%.*

Presentations in the meeting

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

Monsoon Rainfall (June - September) during the week ending on 30th July, 2008

- **Widespread/fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Konkan & Goa, Coastal & South Interior Karnataka and Kerala during the week. **Active / vigorous monsoon** condition prevailed over these regions during second half of the week.
- **Fairly widespread rainfall** also occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep North Interior Karnataka, Telangana and Coastal Andhra Pradesh during many days of the week.
- **Widespread/fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha during many days with active/vigorous monsoon condition over Vidarbha and Orissa during a few days.
- **Scattered/fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Gujarat state, East Rajasthan and West Madhya Pradesh during second half of the week.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Northeastern states and West Bengal & Sikkim, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh during many days of the week.
- **Isolated/scattered rain/thundershower** occurred over remaining parts of the country during the week.

- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 20 sub-divisions and deficient / scanty in 16 sub-divisions met sub-division.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 30th July, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 26 and deficient / scanty in 10 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (30.07.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 30.07.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	30.1	53.6	-44	D	352.1	277.3	27	E
Central India	94.7	77.7	22	E	442.6	486.6	-9	N
South Peninsular India	67.9	51.3	32	E	298.8	374.1	-20	D
North-East India	60.6	99.0	-39	D	757.2	777.9	-3	N
Country as a whole	64.1	68.5	-6	N	436.7	446.6	-2	N

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.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 02nd - 06th August, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 06th August, 2008

- *Two synoptic scale weather systems (low pressure area/ cyclonic circulation) are likely to form over west-central and adjoining northwest Bay of Bengal and move in a west-northwesterly direction.*
- *Fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over Central India during first half of the week.*
- *Peninsular India particularly Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra are likely to receive widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls during 2-5 August.*
- *Northwest India is likely to experience fairly widespread rainfall activity with isolated heavy to very heavy falls during first half of the week.*
- *West coast and northeastern states are likely to receive near normal rainfall. However, rainfall may be below normal over East India.*

Warning:

- *Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Assam & Meghalaya, Madhya Pradesh and Vidarbha.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places likely over Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Rain/thundershower are likely at a few places over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over West Bengal & Sikkim. Rain/thundershower are likely at a few places over the rest region.*

North-East India (Arunachal Pradesh, NMM&T, Assam & Meghalaya)

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over the region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Coastal Karnataka, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Andhra Pradesh till tomorrow and increase thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

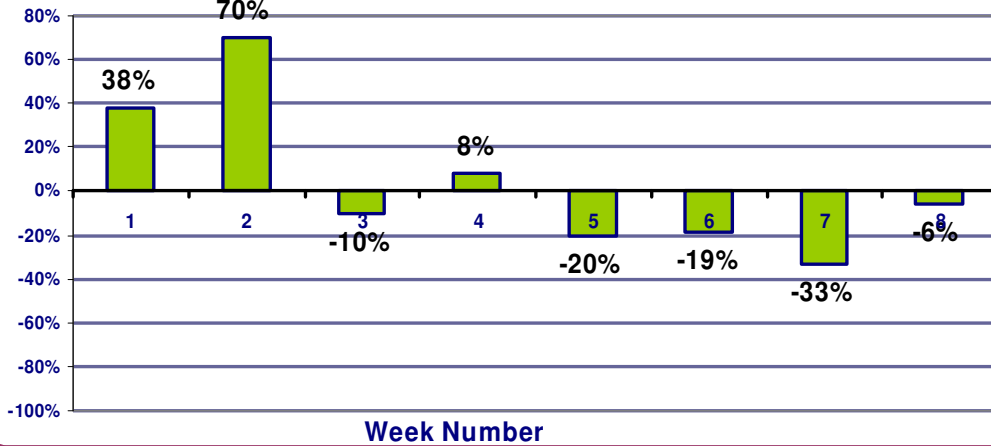
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely **at many places** over Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra and Rajasthan.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Gujarat State during 24 hours and increase thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers over the rest region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

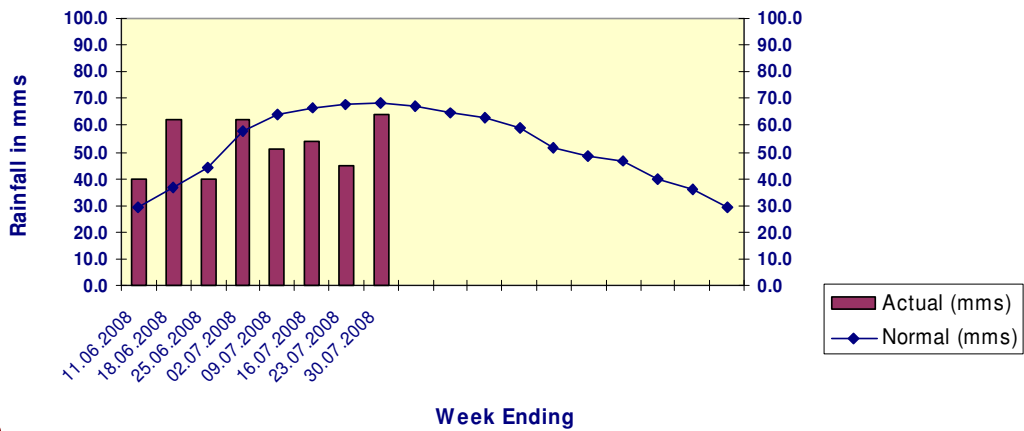
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over the region during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*

Weekly Percentage Rainfall Deviation from Normal(LPA)- All India

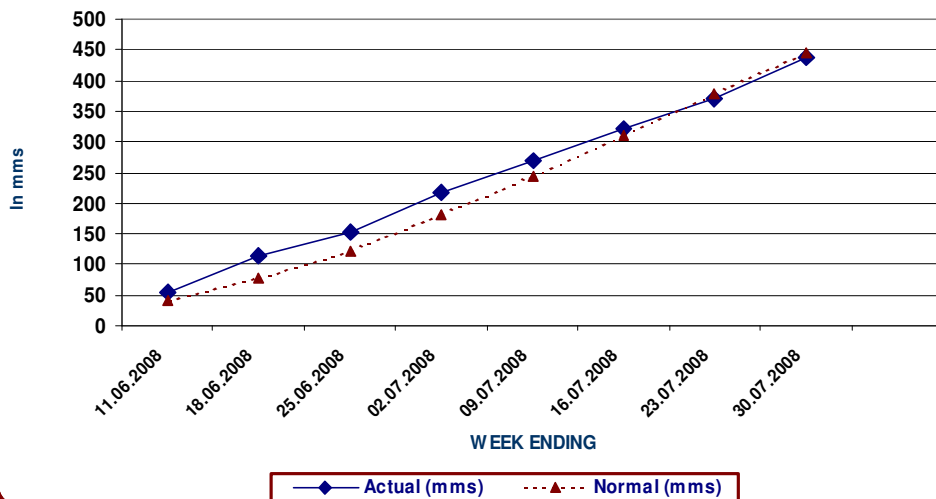
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 30.07.2008)



Weekly Rainfall Distribution in Monsoon 2008 - All India



Trend of All India Cumulative Rainfall Actual vs Normal in Monsoon 2008



Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 31.07.2008)

- 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 increased to 48.49 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 83.37 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 51.78 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

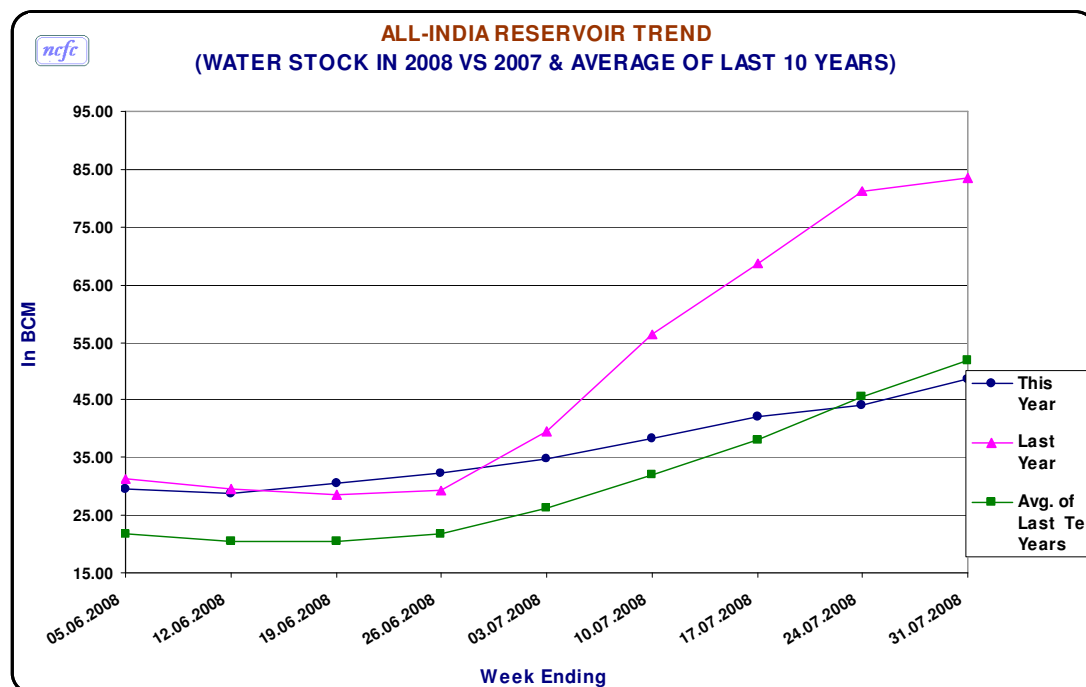
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	32	58	94
Last Week	29	54	97

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 55% on 31/07/2007, 48% on 31/07/2006, 42% on 31/07/2005 and 21% on 31/07/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 45 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 17 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 12 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were four reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj), Upper Kolab (Ori), Upper Indravati (Ori) and Girna (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and three reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP), Indira Sagar (MP) and Yeldari (Maha) 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 April to 31st July, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>	<i>Complex</i>
<i>Requirement</i>	<i>9032</i>	<i>2819</i>	<i>1088</i>	<i>3116</i>
<i>Availability during 1st April to 31st July, 08</i>	<i>8513</i>	<i>2850</i>	<i>1316</i>	<i>1980</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 31st July, 08</i>	<i>6235</i>	<i>2559</i>	<i>1181</i>	<i>1725</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 31.07.2008</i>	<i>2278</i>	<i>291</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>255</i>
<i>Requirement for August, 2008</i>	<i>2590</i>	<i>707</i>	<i>305</i>	<i>924</i>

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

Pest & Diseases:

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

Locust Situation in India

- *India continued to be free from any gregarious locust activity. However, Solitary immature adults at the ranging from 10-60 adults/sq km were reported at three localities of Jodhpur & Bikaner districts of Rajasthan. Ecological conditions are conducive for locust breeding in the scheduled Desert of India.*
- *Incidence of Gummosis on Citrus fruit crop in districts of Nagpur in Maharashtra has been reported. However, no crop damage was reported so far.*

Table:4

All India Crop Situation - Kharif (2008-09) as on 01-08-2008							
							(In lakh hectares)
Crop Name	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
							Changes in major States (abs. %)
Rice	391.17	231.32	59.1	207.57	23.8	11.4	AP (-0.7, -14.3), Ass(-0.3, -2.9), Bih (+5.0 +34.6), Chhat (+1.6, +5.5), Guj (-0.5, -40.2), Har(+1.0, +10.6), Jhar (-0.7, -8.9), Kar (-0.3, -8.0), MP (+2.1, +26.9), Maha(-2.0, -25.4), Pun (+0.5, +2.0), TN (+0.6, +65.6), UP (+15.9, +40.0) . WB (+1.3, +9.6)
Jowar	42.08	22.78	54.1	29.46	-6.7	-22.7	AP (-0.8, -55.6), Guj (-0.2, -31.9), Har (-0.2, -26.3), Kar (-0.8, -27.9), Maha(-5.9, -49.5), Raj (+0.9, +19.2)
Bajra	91.81	60.07	65.4	73.19	-13.1	-17.9	Guj (-3.7, -51.6), Har (+0.8, +12.5), Kar (-3.0, -81.2), MP (-0.2, -9.9), Maha (-9.2, -80.5), Raj (+1.2, +3.2) , UP (+1.3, +27.6)
Maize	63.71	58.45	91.7	66.00	-7.6	-11.4	AP(-2.3, -47.3), Chhat(+0.4,+42.9), Guj (-0.6, -14.8), Jhar (-0.5, -24.8), Kar (-3.0, -32.6), Maha (-2.7, -47.5), Raj (+1.1, +11.4)
Total Coarse Cereals	226.54	151.38	66.8	179.64	-28.3	-15.7	AP (-3.6, -49.7), Chhat(+0.4, +30.1), Guj (-4.6, -38.4), Har (+1.0, +14.0), J&K (-0.4, -19.4), Jhar (-0.5, -24.8), Kar (-8.2, -41.2), MP (+2.2, +15.1), Maha (-18.1, -59.8), Raj (+3.1,+6.0), UP (+1.5, +9.9)
Total Cereals	617.71	382.70	62.0	387.21	-4.5	-1.2	
Tur	34.60	22.41	64.8	28.61	-6.2	-21.7	AP (-0.7, -26.5), Kar (-2.4, -55.7), MP (+0.5, +18.2), Maha (-3.1, -30.4)
Urad	25.31	15.70	62.0	20.18	-4.5	-22.2	Chhat (-0.2, -19.6), Kar (-0.6, -46.7), MP (-0.2, -3.7), Maha (-2.9, -53.2), Ori (-0.2, -21.7), UP (-0.3, -7.6)
Moong	26.16	18.42	70.4	26.84	-8.4	-31.4	AP (-1.0, -37.7), Guj (-0.9, -51.1), Kar (-2.8, -62.5), Maha (-2.6, -41.5), Ori (-0.3, -30.6), Raj (-0.9, -10.1)
Others	22.64	14.49	64.0	17.22	-2.7	-15.9	
Total Pulses	108.71	71.02	65.3	92.85	-21.8	-23.5	AP (-1.9, -30.2), Bih (-0.2, -25.3), Chhat (-0.2, -8.5), Guj(-1.3, -22.3), Kar (-6.3, -55.8), MP (+0.4, +4.2), Maha (-9.2, -40.3), Ori (-0.7, -21.0), Raj (-1.7, -7.9), TN (-0.3, -44.1), UP (-0.4, -5.0)
Total Foodgrains	726.42	453.72	62.5	480.06	-26.3	-5.5	
Groundnut	53.54	41.27	77.1	44.39	-3.1	-7.0	AP (-1.4, -12.3), Guj (+1.0, +5.9), Kar (-1.7, -29.4), Maha (-1.2, -38.9), Ori (-0.2, -19.5), Raj (+0.3, +9.1)
Soyabean	72.54	87.70	120.9	79.37	8.3	10.5	AP (+0.4, +34.9), Chh (+0.1, +12.6), Kar (+0.3, +15.6), MP (+5.9, +13.3), Maha (-0.6, -2.3), Raj (+2.4, +40.0)
Sunflower	7.59	2.01	26.5	5.71	-3.7	-64.8	AP (-0.5, -60.0), Kar (-2.8, -64.6), Maha (-0.5, -83.9)
Sesamum	14.48	10.96	75.7	11.97	-1.0	-8.4	AP (-0.4, -43.8), Guj (-1.2, -38.0), Kar (-0.4, -48.1), MP (+0.4, +27.1), Maha (-0.4, -58.9), Raj (+0.9, +29.8), UP (+0.3, +23.5)
Niger	3.83	0.63	16.4	0.90	-0.3	-30.0	
Castor	7.01	1.74	24.8	4.38	-2.6	-60.3	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	144.31	90.8	146.71	-2.4	-1.6	AP (-3.1, -19.8), Chhat (+0.2, +10.6), Guj (-1.5, -6.8), Kar (-4.9, -37.5), MP (+6.2 +13.0), Maha (-2.9, -9.9), Ori (-0.3, -22.7), Raj (+3.6, +28.9), TN (+0.2, +28.6), UP (+0.2, +9.9)
Cotton	83.73	69.74	83.3	79.23	-9.5	-12.0	AP (-1.0, -11.8), Guj (-1.4, -6.8), Har (-0.7, -13.5), MP (-0.2, -2.9), Maha (-3.7, -14.1), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.9, -50.8)
Sugarcane	41.47	43.92	105.9	52.95	-9.0	-17.1	AP (-1.2, -47.8), Bih (+0.4, +12.7), Har (-0.4, -26.7), Kar (-0.5, -18.0), Maha(-3.2, -29.2), Pun (-0.3, -21.5), TN (-0.3, -7.3), UP (-3.0, -13.7), Uttaran(-0.3, -19.5)
Jute	8.24	7.37	89.4	8.26	-0.9	-10.8	Bih (+0.1, +8.1), WB (-1.0, -16.4)
All- Crops	1018.83	719.06	70.6	767.21	-48.15	-6.3	

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 19.07.2008 **increased** by 0.09 percentage points to 11.98% from the previous week level of 11.89%. The inflation rate was 4.65% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.09% to 10.24%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.10% to 10.82% followed by (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 0.04% to 16.90%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 19.07.2008 stood in the order of 19.79%, 50.05% and 30.23%.

Procurement :

Table – 4: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 28.07.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 28.07.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Punjab	67.81	99.39	67.57
Haryana	33.50	52.31	33.46
Uttar Pradesh	5.46	31.23	5.36
Madhya Pradesh	0.57	23.37	0.57
Rajasthan	3.83	9.35	3.83
All-India	111.28	225.44	110.90

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 01.08.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 01.08.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	64.68	52.87
Chhattisgarh	28.65	24.29	28.16
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.50	0.89
Orissa	20.02	22.67	19.03
Punjab	78.29	78.73	78.25
Tamil Nadu	10.77	8.00	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.40	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	9.43	6.08
All-India	251.07	263.27	247.86