

**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 26th August, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 22.08.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Good rainfall activity was observed over most parts of the country during the week ending 20.08.2008. The areas covered include Northeastern States, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Gangetic West Bengal, Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, East Rajasthan, Coastal Karnataka, Konkan & Goa, Gujarat Region, Madhya Maharashtra, Interior Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Rainfall received for the country as whole during the period 1st June to 20th August, 08 was 648.3 mm which is around 2% more than normal. It was excess/normal in 31 met sub-divisions and deficient in 5 met sub-divisions. The met sub-divisions with excess/normal rainfall covered around 89% of the total geographical area of the country.*
- *Monsoon rainfall is normal in all the four broad divisions of the country. It was above LPA in North-west India (22%), below LPA in Central India (-4%), South Peninsula (-3%) and North-east India (-3%).*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient rainfall include Assam & Meghalaya (-20%), NMMT (-28%), Marathwada (-41%), North Interior Karnataka (-23%) and Kerala (-29%).*
- *As on 22.8.08, area sown under all kharif crops at All India level has been reported to be 911.50 lakh hectares as compared to 940.05 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007. Increase in area sown has been reported under Rice, Soyabean and Oilseeds. However, under Cotton, Sugarcane, Coarse Cereals and Pulses area sown has been less as compared to last year. A comparative statement on area sown under various kharif crops as on 21.08.08 is attached.*
- *Area under pulses is not expected to improve further due to deficient rainfall at critical time particularly in Maharashtra and Karnataka.*
- *Seed position is reported to be comfortable. Arrangements have been made to make available seeds of suitable crop varieties where late sowing may be required due to delayed rainfall.*
- *The incidence of pests & diseases generally remained below Economic Threshold Level (ETL) 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 09.08.2008 increased by 0.19 percentage points to 12.63% from the previous week's level of 12.44%. The inflation rate was 4.24% during the corresponding period last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 09.08.2008 increased to 5.94% from the previous week's level of 5.61%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has gone up by 1.24% and stood at 5.01% and rice has decreased to 6.67% with an decrease of 0.34% points.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI increased to 17.09% from the previous week's level of 16.20% and for the food items, it increased to 7.47% from the previous week's level of 7.20%.*

Presentations in the meeting

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

Monsoon Rainfall (June - September) during the week ending on 20th August, 2008

- **Widespread/fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Northeastern States, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh with **active / vigorous monsoon** conditions during many days of the week.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Telangana during many days of the week with **active / vigorous monsoon** conditions for one or two days.
- **Fairly widespread rain/thundershower** also occurred over Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi and East Rajasthan during first half of the week and rainfall activity decreased thereafter.
- **Widespread/fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Coastal Karnataka and Konkan & Goa during the week. **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Gujarat Region, Madhya Maharashtra, Interior Karnataka, Kerala, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during first half of the week.
- **Isolated to scattered rain/thundershower** occurred over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.
- While the weekly cumulative rainfall was excess over Western Himalayan region, Indo-Gangetic plains, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, it was deficient/scanty over west & central India and west coast.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 23 sub-divisions and deficient / scanty in 13 sub-divisions met sub-division.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 20th August, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 31 and deficient / scanty in 5 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (20.08.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 20.08.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	63.9	49.4	29	E	528.9	434.3	22	E
Central India	45.6	71.9	-37	D	685.5	713.6	-4	N
South Peninsular India	41.5	41.9	-1	N	490.3	503.7	-3	N
North-East India	107.3	81.2	32	E	994.2	1021.5	-3	N
Country as a whole	60.3	60.6	-1	N	648.3	635.6	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 21st - 27th August, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 27th August, 2008

- *Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over East & Central India during first half of the week and decrease thereafter.*
- *Increase in rainfall activity over Northeastern States and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during second half of the week.*
- *Increase in rainfall activity over Northwest India during first two days and decrease thereafter.*
- *Subdues rainfall activity over the remaining parts of the country.*

Warning:

- *Isolated heavy rainfall is likely over Orissa and North Chhattisgarh.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh Uttarakhand and West Uttar Pradesh during next 24 hours and isolated thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers is likely over rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Orissa during next 24 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershower are likely at a few places over rest region during next 24 hours and isolated thereafter.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over the region during next 3 days and increase thereafter.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands and at few places over Tamil Nadu and Coastal Karnataka.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places East Rajasthan during next 24 hours and isolated thereafter.*

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over **Konkan & Goa**.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers is likely over Madhya Pradesh and mainly dry over the rest region.*

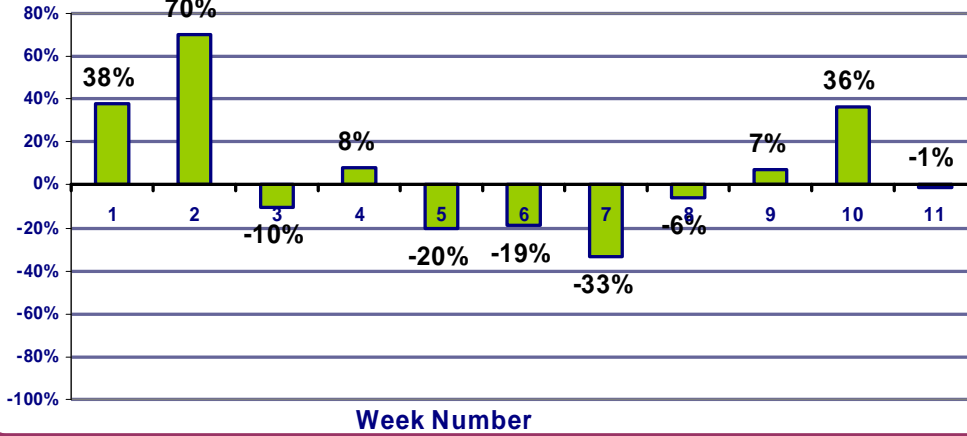
Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over **Chhattisgarh** during next 24 hours and reduce thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers is likely over North Madhya Pradesh and South Chhattisgarh.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest region.*

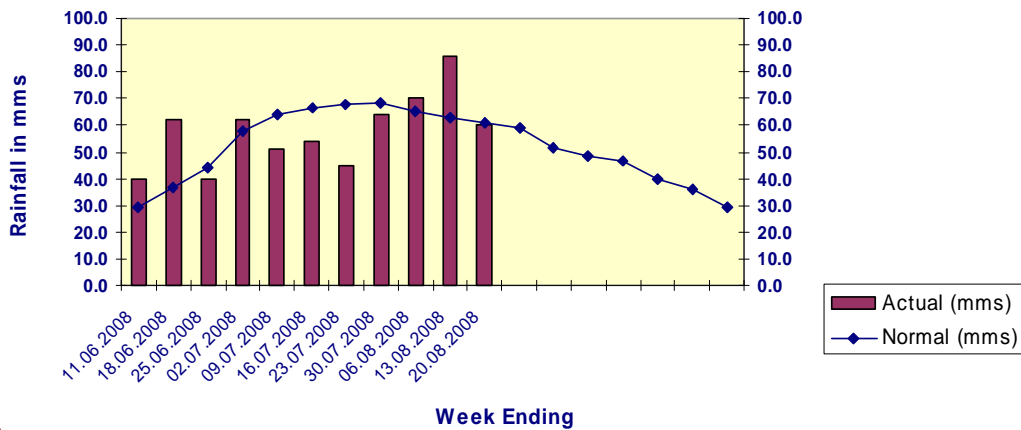


Weekly Percentage Rainfall Deviation from Normal(LPA)- All India

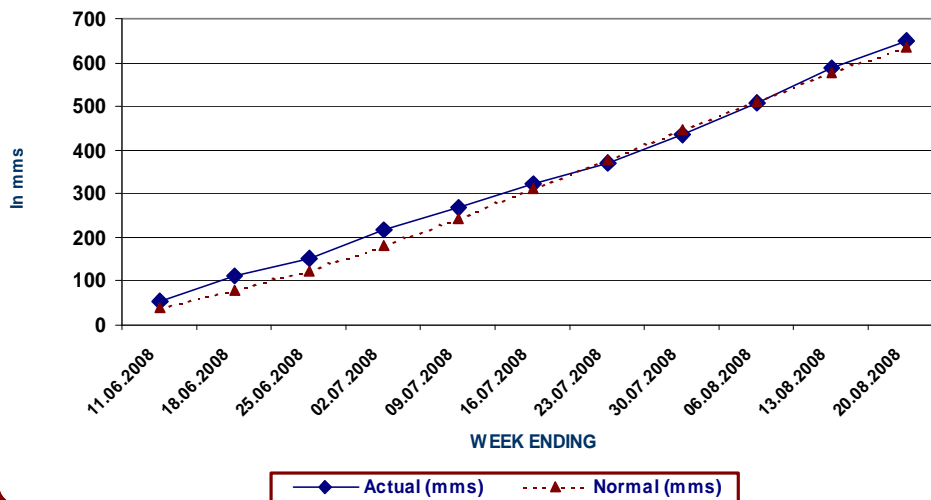
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 20.08.2008)



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 21.08.2008)

- 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 86.16 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 103.18 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 78.92 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

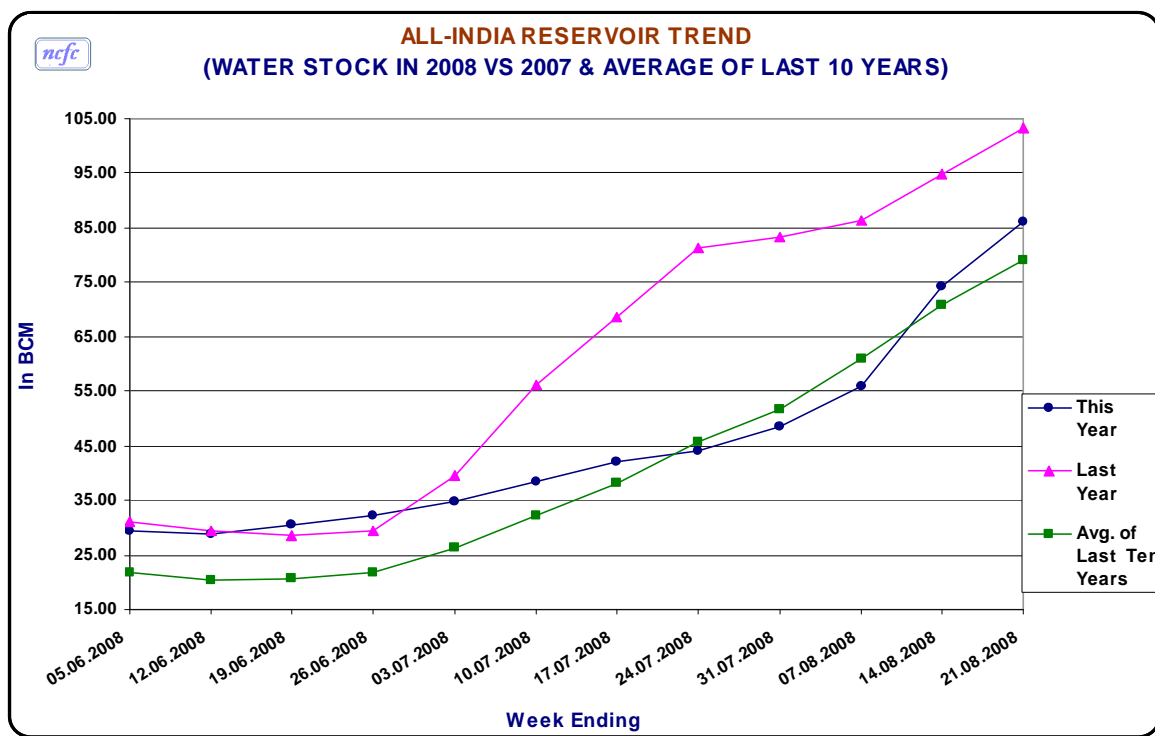
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	57	84	109
Last Week	49	78	105

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 68% on 21/08/2007, 75% on 21/08/2006, 71% on 21/08/2005 and 51% on 21/08/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 63 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 12 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and one reservoir having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were three reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj), Girna (Maha) and Vanivilas Sagar (Kar) having storage below 30% of normal storage and three reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP) 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 21st August, 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>11622</i>	<i>3525</i>	<i>1392</i>	<i>4040</i>
<i>Availability during 1st April to 21st August, 08</i>	<i>10001</i>	<i>3503</i>	<i>1627</i>	<i>2473</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 21st August, 08</i>	<i>8263</i>	<i>3254</i>	<i>1423</i>	<i>2261</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 21.08.2008</i>	<i>1738</i>	<i>249</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>212</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.

Table :4

All India Crop Situation - Kharif (2008-09) as on 22-08-2008							
Crop Name	Normal Area				(In lakh hectares)		Remarks
		Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
							Changes in major States (abs. %)
Rice	391.17	324.63	83.0	303.56	21.1	6.9	AP (+0.4, +2.9), Ass (-1.2, -7.6), Bih (+2.8 +9.4), Chhat (-1.4, -4.0), Guj (-1.6, -22.0), Har(+0.4, +3.7), Kar (+0.9, +16.1), MP (+0.8, +5.6), Maha(-1.3, -9.6), Ori (+1.0, +3.3), Pun (+0.5, +1.9), TN (+0.7, +45.9), UP (+18.2, +45.9), WB (+0.8, +2.1)
Jowar	42.08	27.53	65.4	33.31	-5.8	-17.4	AP (-0.2, -15.7), Guj (-0.2, -28.9), Kar (-0.8, -25.8), MP (-0.3, -6.2), Maha(-3.5, -28.4), Raj (+0.5, +9.2), TN (-0.7, -52.3), UP (-0.7, -22.2)
Bajra	91.81	72.35	78.8	80.48	-8.1	-10.1	AP (-0.3, -45.0), Guj (-2.2, -30.7), Har (+0.5, +7.1), Kar (-2.2, -55.9), Maha (-5.4, -44.3), Raj (+0.7, +1.7), UP (+1.2, +17.4)
Maize	63.71	66.64	104.6	71.78	-5.1	-7.2	AP(-0.7, -13.2), J & K (-0.4, -21.3), Jhar (-0.5, -24.8), Kar (-2.1, -20.5), Maha (-1.2, -20.3), Raj (+0.4, +4.3), TN (-0.3, -40.0), UP (-0.3, -3.4)
Total Coarse Cereals	226.54	184.05	81.2	204.02	-20.0	-9.8	AP (-1.3, -15.3), Guj (-2.7, -21.0), Har (+0.7, +8.9), J&K (-0.5, -22.8), Jhar (-0.5, -24.8), Kar (-5.5, -22.5), MP (-0.9, -4.9), Maha (-10.0 -31.1), Raj (+1.6,+2.8), TN (-1.0, -39.4), UP (+0.2, +1.2)
Total Cereals	617.71	508.68	82.3	507.58	1.1	0.2	
Tur	34.60	31.46	90.9	37.03	-5.6	-15.0	AP (-0.8, -20.1), Bih (-0.3, -45.9), Kar (-1.8, -29.6), Maha (-2.2, -19.0), TN (+0.5, +353.8), UP (-0.5, -11.6)
Urad	25.31	19.58	77.4	24.99	-5.4	-21.6	Kar (-0.5, -33.8), MP (-0.6 -10.2), Maha (-3.0, -49.7), UP (-1.1, -21.7)
Moong	26.16	22.91	87.6	30.33	-7.4	-24.5	AP (-0.6, -18.9), Guj (-0.6, -26.2), Kar (-2.8, -57.9), Maha (-2.9, -41.4), Raj(-0.5, -4.8)
Others	22.64	21.61	95.4	20.51	1.1	5.4	
Total Pulses	108.71	95.57	87.9	112.86	-17.3	-15.3	AP (-1.6, -18.9), Bih (-0.5, -42.1), Guj(-1.1, -15.3), Jhar (-0.6, -33.3), Kar (-5.6, -39.5), MP (-0.8, -7.4), Maha (-9.1, -34.4), Raj (+2.6, +11.5), TN (+0.6, +94.1), UP (-1.7, -16.8)
Total Foodgrains	726.42	604.25	83.2	620.44	-16.2	-2.6	
Groundnut	53.54	49.54	92.5	50.77	-1.2	-2.4	AP (-0.4, -2.6), Guj (+1.3, +7.5), Kar (-1.2, -16.9), MP (-0.3, -12.4), Maha (-0.9, -28.3), Raj (+0.2, +4.8)
Soyabean	72.54	94.12	129.7	86.84	7.3	8.4	AP (+0.4, +37.4), Kar (+0.4, +22.2), MP (+2.8, +5.8), Maha (+2.6, +9.9), Raj (+1.0, +13.3)
Sunflower	7.59	4.11	54.2	6.83	-2.7	-39.8	AP (-0.5, -50.5), Kar (-2.1, -42.6), Maha (-0.2, -20.8)
Sesamum	14.48	13.18	91.0	14.54	-1.4	-9.4	AP (-0.5, -47.4), Guj (-0.7, -21.8), Kar (-0.3, -39.8), MP (-0.4, -16.7), Maha (-0.3, -38.2), Raj (+0.6, +18.7)
Niger	3.83	1.93	50.4	2.08	-0.2	-7.2	
Castor	7.01	5.81	82.9	6.44	-0.6	-9.8	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	168.70	106.1	167.51	1.19	0.7	AP (-1.5, -7.9), Guj (+0.3, +1.2), Kar (-3.4, -22.9), MP (+2.1 +3.9), Maha (+1.2, +3.7) Raj (+2.2, +15.0), TN (+0.2, +8.1)
Cotton	83.73	87.05	104.0	90.89	-3.8	-4.2	AP (+2.2, +20.9), Guj (-1.5, -6.0), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Maha (-2.1, -6.7), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.5, -41.0)
Sugarcane	41.47	44.13	106.4	52.95	-8.8	-16.7	AP (-1.2, -47.0), Bih (+0.4, +12.7), Har (-0.4, -26.7), Kar (-0.5, -18.0), Maha(-3.0, -27.5), 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	911.50	89.5	940.05	-28.56	-3.0	

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 09.08.2008 **increased** by 0.19 percentage points to 12.63% from the previous week level of 12.44%. The inflation rate was 4.24% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.40% to 11.83%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.16% to 10.91% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group remained unchanged at the previous week's level of 17.99%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 02.08.2008 stood in the order of 21.54%, 47.93% and 30.56%.

Procurement :

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 18.08.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 18.08.2008	
		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	5.49
Madhya Pradesh	0.57	23.37	0.57
Rajasthan	3.83	9.35	3.83
All-India	111.28	225.73	111.04

Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 22.08.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 22.08.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	66.14	53.12
Chhattisgarh	28.65	25.07	28.30
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.55	0.96
Orissa	20.02	23.33	19.10
Punjab	78.29	78.87	78.26
Tamil Nadu	10.77	8.36	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.40	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	11.06	6.36
All-India	251.07	268.36	248.71