

**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 Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, the 11th December, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 05.12.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Rainfall received for the country as whole during the week ending 03rd December, 2008 was 12.8 mm.*
- *Maximum Temperature anomaly ranged between 2 to 4^oC in some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, West Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh Manipur, Lakshadweep, most parts in Himachal Pradesh, -2 to 0^oC over some parts of Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, East Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Marathwada, Gujarat, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Island, most parts in Karnataka, Rayalseema, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, 0 to 2^oC in remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum Temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6^oC over some parts of Uttar Pradesh, East Madhya Pradesh, 2 to 4^oC in some parts of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, East Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, North Interior Karnataka, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalseema, Telengana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, most parts of Lakshadweep and -2 to 0^oC over some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Saurashtra & Kutch, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Maharashtra, East India, Interior Karnataka, Telangana, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, in most parts of North East India and 0 to 2^oC over remaining parts of the country.*
- *In 81 important water reservoirs monitored by CWC in different parts of the country, total live storage has gone down from 95.67 BCM on 27.11.2008 to 91.60 BCM on 04.12.2008.*
- *Sowing of rabi crops is in full swing. Area sown reported till 05.12.08 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds was 51%, 94% and 89% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 05.12.08, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 422.63 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 376.85 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007.*
- *Major crops have reported higher area coverage as compared to the corresponding period of last year. Area reported was higher by 19.4 lakh ha. under Wheat, 3.4 lakh ha. under Jowar, 9.8 lakh ha. under Gram, 2.2 lakh ha. under Lentil, 2.2 lakh ha. under Peas and 7.0 lakh ha. under Rapeseed & Mustard.*

- *Seed position is reported to be comfortable. 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 22.11.2008 decreased to 8.40% from the previous week's level of 8.84%. The inflation rate was 3.11% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 22.11.2008 increased to 9.50% from the previous week's level of 8.75%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has increased to 3.95% from the previous week's level of 3.48%, Rice to 12.85% from the previous week's level of 11.21%, Cereals to 8.98% from the previous week's level of 8.27%, Pulses to 13.22% from the previous week's level of 11.70%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items decreased to 10.83% from the previous week's level of 11.97% and for the food items, the inflation increased to 10.48% from the previous week's level of 9.93%.*

Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Post-Monsoon Rainfall (October - December) during the week ending on 03rd December, 2008

- Under the influence of the **cyclonic storm, “NISHA” widespread rainfall with scattered heavy to very heavy falls and isolated extremely heavy falls** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry on 27th & 28th November, 2008.
- **Isolated heavy to very heavy falls** also occurred over south Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalseema and adjoining areas of Karnataka during 27-29th November, 08.
- **Widespread rainfall** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, Rayalseema and south Coastal Andhra Pradesh during first two days of the week.
- **Scattered heavy to very heavy falls with isolated extremely heavy falls** occurred over these regions during the same period. The activity gradually decreased thereafter. Scattered to isolated rainfall occurred over Kerala, Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during many days of the week.
- Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa also experienced **isolated to scattered rainfall** during middle of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess/normal in 11 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 12 met sub-divisions and no rain in 13 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st October to 03rd December, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 8 and deficient / scanty in 28 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (03.12.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 03.12.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	0.0	3.1	-99	S	21.4	42.2	-49	D
Central India	1.3	2.3	-42	D	25.0	74.9	-67	S
South Peninsular India	62.9	10.7	489	E	247.1	242.0	2	N
North-East India	0.0	4.2	-99	S	90.2	150.8	-40	D
Country as a whole	12.8	4.5	186	E	77.9	109.8	-29	D

E: Excess, N: Normal, D: Deficient, S: Scanty, NR: No Rain.

Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

TEMPERATURE

Minimum Temperature

- The minimum temperatures were **appreciably above normal to markedly above normal** over Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa during many days of the week. They were above normal to appreciably above normal over South & central India, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Bihar.

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 04th – 10th December, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 10th December, 2008

- *The low pressure area over southeast Bay of Bengal concentrated into a depression and lay centred at 0830 hours IST of 4th December over the same region near lat. 6.5° N and long. 90.0° E. It is likely to intensify further and move in a west-northwesterly direction.*
- *Under its influence, fairly widespread rainfall with isolated heavy falls is likely over Nicobar Islands on 4th December and activity is likely to decrease thereafter. Squally wind speed reaching 45-55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph is also likely along and off Nicobar Islands on 4th December.*
- *Fairly widespread rainfall with isolated heavy falls is likely to commence over coastal Tamil Nadu from 6th onwards and extend to remaining parts of extreme south peninsula from 7th for subsequent two days.*
- *A fresh western disturbance is likely to affect Western Himalayan region and adjoining plains during second half of the week.*

Warning: Isolated heavy to very heavy falls is likely over Coastal Tamil Nadu & Puducherry commencing from 6th December, 2008.

- ***Squally winds speed 55-65 kmph gusting to 75 kmph are likely along and off Tamil Nadu & Puducherry coast from 7th December, 08 morning. Sea condition will be very rough to high along and off Tamil Nadu & Puducherry Coast. Fishermen are advised not to venture into the sea.***

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the region till 07th December, 08.*
- *Isolated snowfall is likely over Jammu & Kashmir from 7th night onwards.*

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

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

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

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

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Coastal Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during next 24 hours and at most places thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*

- *Mainly dry weather over the rest Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Rayalseema and Coastal Andhra Pradesh during next 24 hours and scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers thereafter.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest region till tomorrow and isolated to scattered rain/thundershowers thereafter.*

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

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

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 04.12.2008)

- 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 91.60 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 104.41 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 89.49 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

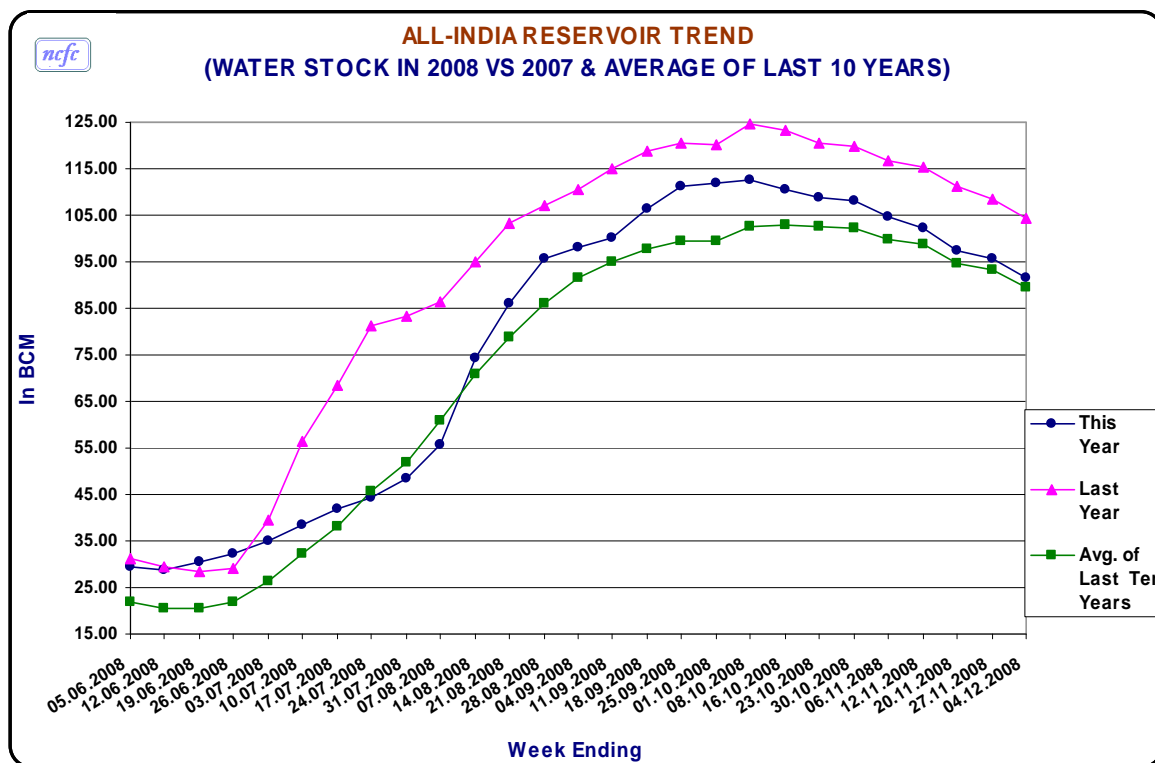
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	60	88	102
Last Week	63	88	103

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 69% on 04/12/2007, 73% on 04/12/2006, 75% on 02/12/2005 and 55% on 02/12/2004 .

* *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%, 11 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 6 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There was only one reservoir namely Dantiwada (Guj) having storage below 30% of normal storage 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 October to 30th November, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>	<i>Complex</i>
<i>Requirement upto 01st October to 30th November, 2008</i>	<i>5448</i>	<i>3306</i>	<i>915</i>	<i>2146</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 30th November, 08</i>	<i>5206</i>	<i>2772</i>	<i>817</i>	<i>1700</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 30th November, 08</i>	<i>3719</i>	<i>2303</i>	<i>692</i>	<i>1445</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 30.11.2008</i>	<i>1487</i>	<i>469</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>256</i>
<i>Requirement for December, 2008</i>	<i>3594</i>	<i>796</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>746</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 - Rabi (2008-09) as on 05-12-2008								
Crop Name	Normal Area	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
			This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
	IV Adv. Est.	Changes in major States (abs. %)						
Wheat	281.53	265.30	173.70	65.5	154.27	19.4	12.6	Bih (+1.9, +73.4), Guj (+1.2, +21.2), Har (+0.9, +4.1), MP (+6.5, +33.8), Maha(-0.9, -14.5), Pun (+0.7, +2.1), Raj (+3.3, +208.3), UP (+5.7, +10.5), WB (+0.3, +20.0)
Rice	43.88	37.31	1.48	4.0	1.84	-0.4	-19.6	AP(-0.4, -30.7)
Jowar	43.62	49.11	45.87	93.4	42.43	3.4	8.1	AP (-0.5, -27.0), Kar (-0.2, -1.6), Maha (+4.5, +16.0), TN (-0.4,-33.3)
Maize	11.28	8.15	5.02	61.6	4.04	1.0	24.3	AP (+0.3, +31.5), Kar (+0.3, +51.7), TN (+0.4, +53.8), UP (-0.2, -50.0)
Barley	6.14	6.50	5.15	79.2	4.38	0.8	17.6	MP (+0.3, +113.0), Raj (+0.5, +28.0)
Total Coarse Cereals	61.04	63.60	56.34	88.6	51.19	5.2	10.1	AP (-0.2, -7.6), MP (+0.3, +113.0), Maha (+4.6, +16.0), Raj (+0.5, +28.0), UP (-0.2, -11.4)
Total Cereals	386.45	366.21	231.52	63.2	207.30	24.2	11.7	
Gram	75.80	68.50	71.07	103.7	61.25	9.8	16.0	Chhatt (+0.8, +78.4), Har (+0.3, +23.8), Kar (+1.2, +18.0), MP (+6.1, +31.2), Maha(-0.9, -10.3), Raj (-0.3, -2.4), UP (+2.7, +45.5)
Lentil	-	14.45	12.42	86.0	10.27	2.2	20.9	Bih (+0.2, +34.8), MP (+1.3, +32.1), UP (+0.7, +12.7)
Peas	-	7.41	7.51	101.4	5.30	2.2	41.8	MP (+0.6, +38.0), UP (+1.5, +49.5)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	4.17	134.5	4.45	-0.3	-6.3	AP (-0.2, -45.2), Ori (-0.3, -11.5), TN (+0.2, +104.8)
Urad	8.09	7.30	3.72	51.0	4.77	-1.0	-22.0	AP (-0.8, -45.0), TN (-0.3, -24.1)
Moong	7.21	6.22	1.74	28.0	2.26	-0.5	-23.0	AP (-0.3, -52.8), Ori (-0.2, -23.6), TN (-0.1, -9.7)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.01	63.2	3.44	0.6	16.6	Chhatt (+0.5, +16.3)
Others	31.07*	2.99	4.44	148.7	3.76	0.7	18.2	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	109.09	94.0	95.50	13.6	14.2	AP (-1.2, -13.5), Chhatt (+1.5, +31.2), Har (+0.3, +27.3), Kar (+1.2, +13.9), MP (+8.0, +31.3), Maha(-1.1, -11.2), Ori (-0.7, -12.7), TN (+0.7, +28.4), UP (+4.8, +34.0),WB (+0.2, +27.8)
Total Foodgrains	508.61	482.21	340.61	70.6	302.80	37.8	12.5	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	62.29	98.5	55.32	7.0	12.6	Bih (-0.2, -18.0), Guj (-0.6, -19.1), Har (+1.3, +25.3),MP (+0.9, +13.6), Raj (+4.6, +20.0), UP (+0.9, +12.2)
Groundnut	11.12	8.28	3.41	41.2	3.28	0.1	4.0	AP (+0.3, +19.0), TN (-0.1, -13.9)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.56	69.4	2.73	-0.2	-6.2	Maha (-0.2, -7.7)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	8.84	67.8	7.78	1.1	13.6	AP (+0.5, +26.9), Kar (+0.7, +17.2), Maha (-0.1, -8.9)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	0.64	26.6	0.55	0.1	16.4	TN (+0.1, +62.5)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	3.47	77.2	3.73	-0.3	-7.0	Bih (-0.1, -40.0), Maha(-0.2, -42.1)
Others	0.52	0.54	0.81	150.0	0.66	0.2	22.7	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	82.02	89.0	74.05	8.0	10.8	AP (+0.7, +18.4), Bih (-0.3, -23.3), Guj (-0.6, -17.2),Har (+1.3, +25.3), Kar (+0.8, +15.4), MP (+0.8, +9.8), Maha (-0.5, -13.5), Raj (+4.6, +20.0), UP (+1.0, +13.0), WB (+0.2, +3.7)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	422.63	73.6	376.85	45.8	12.1	

Source: Crops & TMOP Divisions, DAC

*:- Includes Lentil, Peas, Kauthi, Lathyrus, Cowpea, Avare and Moth etc. during 2007-08 Adv. Est. (E&S).

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 22.11.2008 decreased to 8.40% from the previous week's level of 8.84%. The inflation rate was 3.11% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.08% to 11.98%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.14% to 8.15% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 2.53% to 5.28%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 15.11.2008 stood in the order of 32.61%, 53.89% and 13.60%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 08.12.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 08.12.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	6.94	2.09
Chhattisgarh	27.43	6.09	4.83
Haryana	15.72	13.20	14.51
Kerala	1.68	0.63	0.51
Maharashtra	1.60	0.24	0.19
Orissa	23.49	2.02	1.60
Punjab	79.07	80.97	70.01
Tamil Nadu	9.68	1.87	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	8.97	3.74
Uttaranchal	1.47	0.78	0.37
West Bengal	15.08	1.46	0.02
All-India	285.02	123.68	98.11