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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION
(NATIONAL CROP FORECASTING CENTRE)

Room no. 344-A, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi
Dated, the 28th February, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 22.02.2008.**

Presentations in the meeting

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

Winter Rainfall (January – February) during the week ending on 22nd February, 2008

- **Isolated rain/thundershowers** occurred over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh on 14th February, 08; Tamil Nadu and Kerala on 14-17th February, 08; Andhra Pradesh & Marathawada on 14th February, 08; Interior Karnataka on 15th February, 08; Coastal Karnataka on 16th February, 08; Jammu & Kashmir on 15th, 17th and 18th February, 08 and Lakshadweep on 20th February, 08 and over Andaman & Nicobar Island on a few days of the week.
- A **fresh spell of rain/thundershowers** prevailed over northeast India from 18th February, 08 and East India from 19th February, 08 with isolated/scattered rain/thundershowers activity over different meteorological sub-divisions.
- **Isolated thundersqualls and hailstorms** were reported from coastal Orissa and Gangetic West Bengal on 20th February, 08.
- Mainly **dry weather** prevailed over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 5 sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 13 sub-divisions and no rain in 18 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative winter rainfall (1st January to 20th February, 2008)** at the end of the week was in excess / normal in 17; deficient / scanty in 17 sub-divisions and no rain in 2 met sub-divisions.
- **Fog conditions in morning hours** developed over some parts of Northern plains during 18-20th February, 08.

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

Region	Week Ending (20.02.08)				Cumulative (01.01.08 to 20.02.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	0.4	12.7	-97	S	74.8	70.5	6	N
Central India	0.1	2.9	-95	S	10.0	16.3	-39	D
South Peninsular India	2.4	2.8	-14	N	32.0	13.3	140	E
North-East India	3.3	7.3	-55	D	50.5	40.0	26	E
Country as a whole	1.2	6.6	-82	S	40.7	36.2	13	N

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

Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

Temperature

- **Cold wave/severe cold wave** conditions prevailed over many parts of Gujarat, Rajasthan, northwest, central and east India on 14th February, 08. While it continued to prevail over many parts of east India & Chhattisgarh, it prevailed over some parts of Northwest India and abated from other regions on 15th February, 08. It prevailed only over many parts of Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, North Orissa and North Chhattisgarh on 16th February, 08 and abated on 17th February, 08.
- The minimum temperatures were **below normal by 2-4°C** over remaining parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat, northwest, central and East India as well as Northeast India during many days of the week.
- They were **above normal by 2-4°C** over many parts of south India, Maharashtra and Goa during first half of the week. They were nearly normal during second half of the week over these regions outside Tamil Nadu where they were below normal by 2-3°C.

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 22nd – 27th February, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 27th February, 2008

- *Under the influence of a Western Disturbance, isolated to scattered precipitation is likely over Western Himalayan Region and adjoining Northern plains during first half of the week.*
- *The minimum temperatures over plains of northwest India are likely to increase by 2-4°C during first half of the week and slightly fall thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Northeast India during second half of the week.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Isolated rain/snow is likely over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh during 22nd –23rd February, 08 and mainly dry weather thereafter.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh and isolated 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)

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Tamil Nadu and Kerala.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

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

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 21.02.2008)

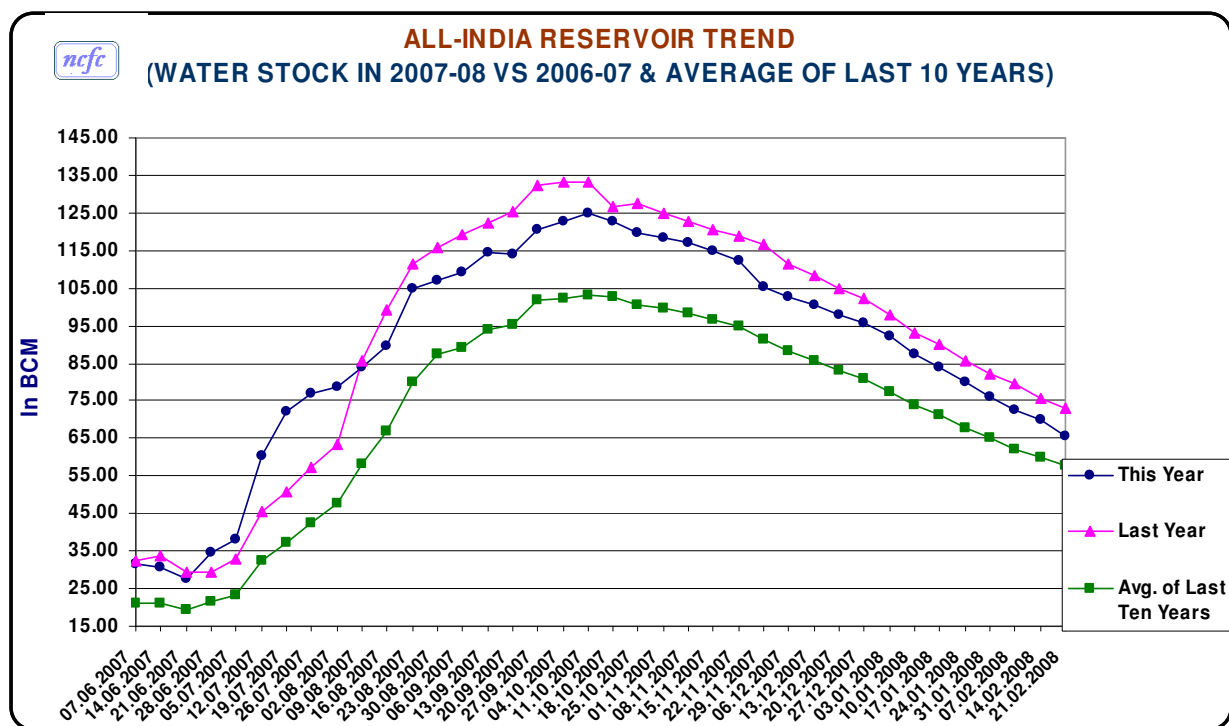
- The **Central Water Commission** monitors the live storage of **81** important/major reservoirs, having Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of **151.77** billion cubic meters (BCM), which is about 72% of total reservoir capacity in the country.
- Water stock in 81 major reservoirs decreased to 65.52 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 72.98 BCM and more than the average of last 10 year's storage of 57.63 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	43	90	114
Last Week	46	92	117
The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 48% on 21/02/2007, 43% on 21/02/2006, 30% on 21/02/2005 and 29% on 21/02/2004 .			
* <i>Live storage as % to Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 151.77 Billion Cub. Mts.(BCM)</i>			

Source: CWC

- There were 69 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 5 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 6 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There was one reservoir namely Sholayar (TN) having storage below 30% of normal 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 15th February, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>
<i>Requirement for February, 2008</i>	<i>1888</i>	<i>430</i>	<i>307</i>
<i>Availability during 1st to 15th Feb., 08</i>	<i>2367</i>	<i>465</i>	<i>175</i>
<i>Sales during 1st to 15th Feb., 08</i>	<i>646</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>68</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 15.02.2008</i>	<i>1721</i>	<i>340</i>	<i>107</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 22-02-2008							
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	277.31	105.8	282.14	-4.83	-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	34.91	93.6	33.23	1.68	5.1	AP (+0.7, +5.6), Kar (+0.5, +24.2), TN (+0.1, +3.7), WB (+0.3, +1.9)
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	10.54	141.4	10.20	0.34	3.3	AP (+0.8, +37.0), Bih (-0.6, -15.1), Guj (+0.1, +17.9)
Barley	6.53	7.54	115.5	7.88	-0.34	-4.3	
Total Coarse Cereals	64.27	67.95	105.7	70.52	-2.57	-3.6	AP (+0.3, +6.9), Bih (-0.6, -14.6), Kar (-0.3, -2.4), Maha (-1.8, -5.8)
Total Cereals	363.59	380.17	104.6	385.89	-5.72	-1.5	
Gram	66.02	80.29	121.6	83.86	-3.57	-4.3	Ass(-0.4, -100.0), Chhat (+0.3, +10.5), Guj (+0.2, +7.3), Jhar (-0.2, -31.5), Kar (-0.6, -7.8), MP (-2.9, -10.6), Maha (+0.4, +3.2), Raj (+1.4, +12.2), 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	6.76	94.2	8.25	-1.50	-18.1	MP (-0.5, -19.9), UP(-1.0, -24.2)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	3.20	5.67	177.1	6.23	-0.56	-8.9	Kar (-1.0, -43.5), TN (+0.5, +143.2)
Urad	7.53	8.27	109.8	7.69	0.58	7.5	AP (-0.2, -5.5), Ass (+0.4, +100.0), Ori(+0.5, +18.8)
Moong	6.04	6.41	106.1	5.75	0.66	11.4	AP (-0.3, -22.1), Ori (+1.0, +27.9), TN(-0.3, -31.8), WB (+0.1, +100.0)
Lathyrus	6.49	5.19	80.0	4.50	0.69	15.4	Chhat (+0.2, +5.4), WB (+0.5, +100.0)
Total Pulses	113.53	133.36	117.5	139.49	-6.13	-4.4	AP (-0.5, -3.8), Chhat (+0.6, +6.9), Jhar (-0.4, -31.7), Kar (-1.6, -14.8), MP (-3.7, -10.5), Maha(+0.4, +2.7), Ori (+1.6, +16.5), Raj (+1.4, +11.6), TN (-0.2, -6.6), UP (-3.8, -20.3), Uttarn(-0.2, -100.0), WB (+0.3, +14.9)
Total Foodgrains	477.12	513.53	107.6	525.38	-11.85	-2.3	
Rapeseed & Mustard	59.28	59.55	100.5	66.30	-6.75	-10.2	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, -14.5), UP (+0.2, +2.6), WB (+0.2, +3.4)
Groundnut	8.16	8.62	105.6	7.84	0.78	9.9	AP (+0.4, +18.5), Kar (+0.2, +13.7), Ori (+0.2, +11.8)
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	10.38	85.4	11.83	-1.45	-12.3	Kar (-0.9, -14.8), Maha (-0.5, -25.4)
Sesamum	16.77	1.30	7.8	1.25	0.05	4.0	AP (-0.1, -53.8), TN (+0.2, +46.5)
Linseed	4.70	4.87	103.7	5.18	-0.31	-6.0	MP(-0.2, -14.6), UP (-0.1, -24.4)
Total Oilseed (Nine)	88.04	89.46	101.6	96.95	-7.49	-7.7	Ass (-0.2, -6.3), Bih (-0.3, -14.3), Har(-0.7, -11.3), Kar (-0.8, -9.5), MP (-1.4, -15.5), Maha (-0.8, -15.7), Ori (+0.2, +5.9), Pun (-0.2, -32.3), Raj (-4.2, -14.5), TN (+0.3, +8.2), UP (+0.1, +1.2), WB (+0.1, +2.3)
All- Crops	565.15	602.99	106.7	622.33	-19.34	-3.1	

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 02.02.2008 increased by 0.28% percentage points to 4.35% from the previous week level of 4.07%. The inflation rate was 6.52% during the corresponding period last year.

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

						(Rs. Per Kg.)
Items	Current price 21.02.08	1 week ago 14.02.08	Fortnight ago 07.02.08	1 month ago 21.01.08	1 year ago 21.02.07	% Variation 21.02.08 over 21.02.07
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Rice	18.00	17.50	17.00	17.00	15.00	20.0
Wheat	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.00	12.00	8.3
Atta	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	7.7
Gram Dal	34.00	34.00	35.00	35.00	36.00	-5.6
Tur Dal	41.00	41.00	42.00	42.00	36.00	13.9
Sugar	17.00	17.00	17.00	17.00	19.00	-10.5
Groundnut Oil	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	95.00	27.4
Mustard Oil	70.00	70.00	69.00	68.00	56.00	25.0
Vanaspati	68.00	68.00	68.00	65.00	56.00	21.4
Tea (Loose)	107.00	108.00	107.00	107.00	110.00	-2.7
Milk	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	18.00	11.1
Potato	8.00	7.00	8.50	8.00	7.00	14.3
Onion	8.00	8.00	9.00	10.00	18.00	-55.6

- Source : Department of food and Civil Supplies, Delhi

During the week, prices of the many essential agricultural commodities namely Wheat, Atta, Gram dal, Tur dal, Sugar, Groundnut Oil, Mustard oil, Vanaspati, Milk and Onion remained at the same level as they were last week. Rise in prices was noted in **Rice** (50 paise per kg, 2.9%), **Potato** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 14.3%). Fall in prices was noted in **Tea (Loose)** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 0.9%).

As compared to the last year price, 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%), **Tur dal** (Rs. 5.00 per kg, 13.9%), **Mustard Oil** (Rs. 14.00 per ltr., 25.0%), **Groundnut oil** (Rs. 26.00 per ltr, 27.4%), **Vanaspati** (Rs. 12.00 per ltr, 21.4%), **Potato** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 14.3%) and **Milk** (Rs. 2.00 per ltr, 11.1%) and decrease in price of **Gram dal** (Rs. 2.00 per kg, (-)5.6%), **Sugar** (Rs. 2.00 per kg, (-)10.5%), **Tea (Loose)** (Rs. 3.00 per kg, (-)2.7%) and **Onion** (Rs. 10.00 per kg, (-)55.6%) was observed.

Procurement :

Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 22.02.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 22.02.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.27	28.89	22.39
Chhattisgarh	28.58	24.98	24.79
Haryana	17.73	15.57	17.52
Kerala	1.51	0.57	0.55
Maharashtra	0.96	1.18	0.85
Orissa	19.93	13.63	11.28
Punjab	78.28	76.23	76.74
Tamil Nadu	10.78	4.55	6.84
Uttar Pradesh	25.49	22.61	19.48
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.18	1.37
West Bengal	6.44	2.51	2.77
All-India	250.75	195.15	188.54