

**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 23rd July, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 18.07.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Weak monsoon conditions prevailed during the week over large parts of the country.*
- *Rainfall received during the period 1st June to 16th July, 08 was 321.8 mm i.e. around 4% above normal. It was excess/normal in 22 met sub-divisions and deficient/scanty in 14 met sub-divisions. While significant amount of rainfall has been received in North-west India (62% above normal), it was less than normal in Central India (-5%) and South Peninsula (-32%). In North-east India, it was marginally above normal (2%).*
- *Fairly widespread rain/thundershowers occurred over West Coast, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during the week.*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient / scanty rainfall include Assam & Meghalaya (-28%), NMMT (-21%), Gujarat Region (-24%), Saurashtra & Kutch (-22%), Madhya Maharashtra (-41%), Marathwada(-65%), Vidarbha (-36%), Coastal Andhra Pradesh (-32%), Telangana (-33%), Rayalseema (-30%), Coastal Karnataka (-29%), North Interior Karnataka (-50%), South Interior Karnataka (-25%) and Kerala (-41%).*
- *It was observed that met sub-divisions of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra continued to get deficient rainfall since the onset of current monsoon season. As per IMD predictions, no significant amount of rainfall is expected in the next week also. Adverse impact of deficient rainfall has started showing in the form of low level of kharif sowing as compared to last year in these states. Contingency planning in these regions may be required as the farmers may have to opt for substitute crops in many of these sub-divisions.*
- *As on 18.7.08, area sown under all kharif crops at All India level has been reported to be 501.27 lakh hectares as compared to 487.89 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007. While increase in area sown has been reported under Rice, Bajra and Soyabean, area sown has declined for Cotton, Sugarcane and Jowar. A comparative statement on area sown under various kharif crops is attached.*
- *Area under pulses have also gone up to 41.92 lakh ha. as compared to 41.83 lakh ha. in 2007. Major States contributing in this increase are Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.*

- *Area under oilseeds was reported to be 101.11 lakh ha. as compared to 99.01 lakh ha. in 2007.*
- *Seed position in met subdivisions observing deficient rainfall was reviewed. So far, no states have reported shortage of seeds. 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 05.07.2008 increased by 0.02 percentage points to 11.91% from the previous week's level of 11.89%. The inflation rate was 4.61% during the corresponding period last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 05.07.2008 decreased to 5.74% from the previous week's level of 6.13%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has gone up by 0.09% and stood at 6.76% and rice has declined to 8.07% i.e. a decrease of 0.38% points.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI decreased to 16.52% from the previous week's level of 17.42% and for the food items it declined to 5.02% from the previous week's level of 6.15%.*

Presentations in the meeting

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

Monsoon Watch

- Southwest monsoon has further advanced into the remaining parts of Rajasthan and thus covered the entire country on 10th July 2008, about five days earlier than normal date.
- Subdued rainfall activity continued over South and adjoining West & Central India during the week.

Monsoon Rainfall (June - September) during the week ending on 16th July, 2008

- **Active/vigorous monsoon conditions** prevailed over Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan during first half of the week and decreased thereafter.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during second half of the week and along the West Coast, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands during many days of the week.
- **Widespread/ fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Northeastern States, West Bengal & Sikkim, Jharkhand and Bihar with increase in intensity towards the second half of the week. The active/vigorous monsoon condition prevailed over these regions during a few days.
- **The rainfall was subdued** over remaining parts of the country with **isolated/ scattered rainfall activity** during many days of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 19 sub-divisions and deficient / scanty in 17 sub-divisions met sub-division.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 16th July, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 22 and deficient / scanty in 14 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (16.07.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 16.07.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	54.9	52.1	5	N	274.7	169.4	62	E
Central India	45.7	75.1	-39	D	318.7	334.9	-5	N
South Peninsular India	22.1	46.6	-53	D	182.0	268.7	-32	D
North-East India	108.6	101.8	7	N	591.6	582.5	2	N
Country as a whole	53.9	66.7	-19	N	321.8	310.5	4	N

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.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 18th – 24th July, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 23rd July, 2008

- Fairly widespread rainfall activity with isolated heavy to very heavy falls along the foothills of the Himalayas, adjoining Gangetic Plains and Northeastern States.
- Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity over remaining parts of East India.
- Fairly widespread rainfall activity over Coastal Karnataka and Kerala.
- Subdued rainfall activity over Interior Peninsula, West and adjoining Central India.

Warning:

- **Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Northeastern States. Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, North Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.**
- **Isolated heavy rainfall is likely over Bihar, Coastal Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep.**

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- Rain/thundershowers at many places likely over Uttarakhand and, West Uttar Pradesh.
- Rain/thundershowers at many places likely over Jammu division of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh during next 4 days and decrease thereafter. 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, Bihar, Jharkhand and East UP.
- 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 Lakshadweep.

Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, North Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.

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

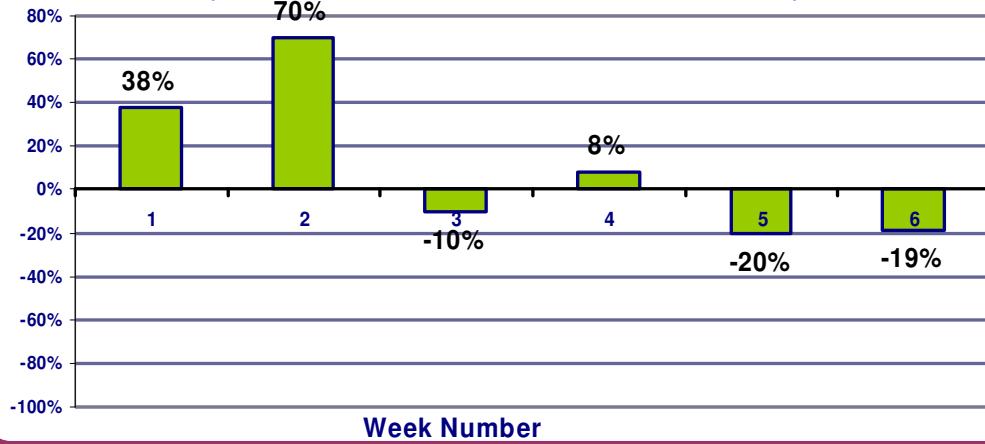
- Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Konkan & Goa, South Gujarat Region and at a few places over North Gujarat Region and East Rajasthan. Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

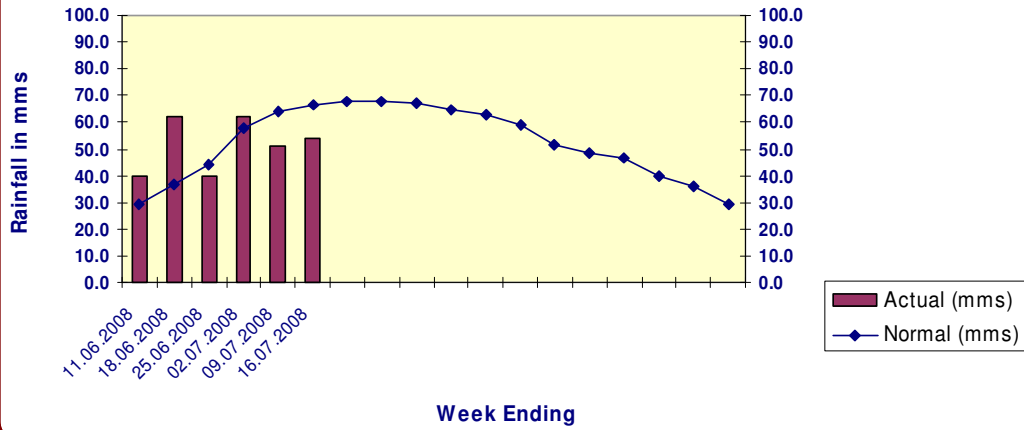
- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over North Madhya Pradesh. Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Chhattisgarh during next 24 hrs and increase thereafter. Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.

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

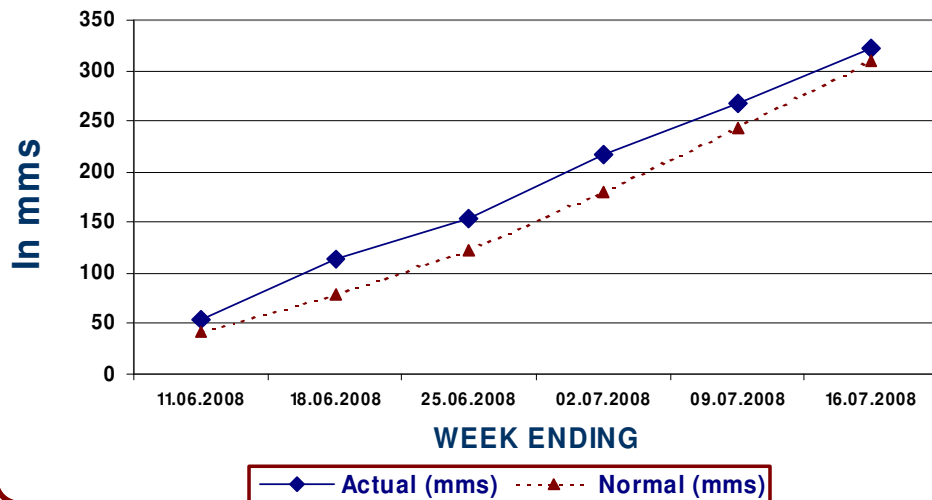
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 16.07.2008)



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 17.07.2008)

- 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 41.98 BCM. Current storage is more than the last year's position of 68.61 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 38.03 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

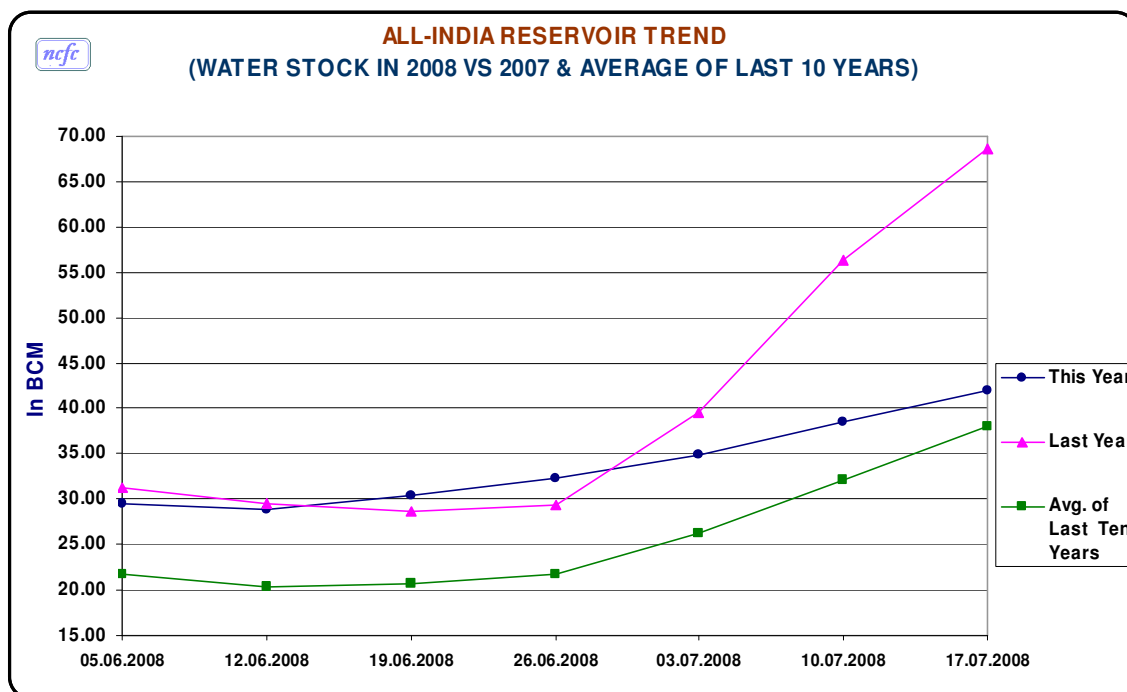
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	28	61	110
Last Week	25	68	120

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 45% on 17/07/2007, 34% on 17/07/2006, 28% on 17/07/2005 and 20% on 17/07/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 52 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 13 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 8 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were six reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj), Sholayar (TN), Upper Kolab (Ori), Balimela (Ori), Upper Indravati (Ori) and Idukki (Kerala) having storage below 30% of normal storage and three reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP), Bhima (Ujjani) 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 14th 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 14th July, 08</i>	<i>7238</i>	<i>2332</i>	<i>1028</i>	<i>1559</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 14th July, 08</i>	<i>4756</i>	<i>2051</i>	<i>903</i>	<i>1299</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 14.07.2008</i>	<i>2482</i>	<i>281</i>	<i>125</i>	<i>260</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 18-07-2008							
Crop Name	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
Rice	391.17	148.88	38.1	121.18	27.7	22.9	AP (-0.3, -17.5), Ass(-0.6, -11.0), Bih (+1.9, +25.9), Chhat (+4.2, +24.2), Guj (-0.5, -40.2), Har(+2.2, +44.0), Jhar (-1.2, -36.6), MP (+0.8, +33.2), Maha(+0.5, +14.0), Ori (-1.2, -7.1), TN (+0.5,+77.8), UP (+21.9, +150.4), WB (-0.5, -4.6)
Jowar	42.08	13.39	31.8	18.48	-5.1	-27.5	AP (-1.0, -74.6), Har (+0.2, +22.7), Kar (-0.9, -31.9), MP (-0.5, -21.2), Maha(-6.6, -77.8), Raj (+3.0, +252.1), UP (+0.5, +62.4)
Bajra	91.81	40.34	43.9	32.03	8.3	25.9	Guj (-2.3, -61.2), Har (+1.5, +31.9), Kar (-2.6, -82.5), MP (+0.5, +234.8), Maha (-6.9, -97.2), Raj (+17.6, +183.3), UP (+2.1, +134.6)
Maize	63.71	40.96	64.3	42.57	-1.6	-3.8	AP(-2.1, -51.9), Bih (-0.7, -25.7), Guj (-0.9, -49.5), Jhar (-0.4, -23.9), Kar (-2.9, -38.0), MP (+1.2, +32.1), Maha (-3.1, -82.3), Raj (+5.5, +360.8), UP (+2.4, +43.6)
Total Coarse Cereals	226.54	99.48	43.9	96.17	3.3	3.4	AP (-2.6, -48.8), Bih (-0.7, -25.7), Guj (-3.1, -53.6), Har (+1.7, +31.2), Jhar (-0.4, -23.9), Kar (-7.1, -48.4), MP (+1.4, +22.4), Maha (-16.7, -85.0), Ori (-0.4, -22.0), Raj (+26.1,+211.7), UP (+5.2, +66.4)
Total Cereals	617.71	248.36	40.2	217.35	31.0	14.3	
Tur	34.60	12.10	35.0	15.62	-3.5	-22.5	AP (-0.6, -32.3), Guj (-1.4, -100.0), Kar (-1.3, -49.2), MP (+0.6, +43.8), Maha (-3.1, -40.1), Ori (+0.3, +285.8), UP(+1.6, +100.0)
Urad	25.31	8.42	33.3	9.29	-0.9	-9.4	Guj (-0.4, -100.0), Kar (-0.9, -56.9), MP (+1.1, +76.9), Maha (-2.5, -58.3), Ori (+0.3, +732.5), Raj (+0.6 +921.7), TN (+0.2, +100.0), UP (+0.7, +106.5)
Moong	26.16	12.41	47.4	13.48	-1.1	-8.0	AP (-0.9, -42.4), Kar (-1.8, -53.2), Maha (-2.6, -51.4), Ori (+0.3, +973.3), Raj (+4.6, +392.7), UP (-0.3, -64.0)
Others	22.64	9.99	44.1	3.44	6.5	190.0	
Total Pulses	108.71	41.92	38.6	41.83	0.1	0.2	AP (-1.5, -33.0), Guj (-2.9, -100.0), Har (+0.3, +132.0), Kar (-4.2, -50.7), MP (+2.0, +58.6), Maha (-8.4, -47.8), Ori (+1.0, +366.1), Raj (+10.1, +439.7), TN (+0.4, +100.1), UP (+1.9, +168.8)
Total Foodgrains	726.42	290.28	40.0	259.18	31.1	12.0	
Groundnut	53.54	26.95	50.3	30.40	-3.4	-11.3	AP (-3.4, -64.0), Guj (+0.9, +5.4), Kar (-2.3, -67.8), MP (+0.3, +28.2), Maha (-0.8, -42.5), Raj (+1.4, +77.1)
Soyabean	72.54	64.98	89.6	54.89	10.1	18.4	Kar (+0.3, +19.9), MP (+12.0, +39.4), Maha (-6.6, -36.6), Raj (+4.2, +159.0)
Sunflower	7.59	1.42	18.7	4.35	-2.9	-67.4	AP (-0.4, -65.0), Kar (-2.3, -67.1 Maha (-0.3, -96.3)
Sesamum	14.48	6.81	47.0	6.25	0.6	9.0	AP (-0.3, -39.4), Guj (-1.0, -40.9), Kar (-0.3, -43.7), MP (+0.4, +75.5), Maha (-0.5, -86.0), Raj (+2.0, +442.2), UP (+0.3, +1133.3)
Niger	3.83	0.18	4.7	0.33	-0.2	-45.5	
Castor	7.01	0.76	10.8	2.79	-2.0	-72.8	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	101.11	63.6	99.01	2.1	2.1	AP (-5.2, -56.5), Chhat (+0.2, +18.0), Guj (-1.0, -5.2), Kar (-4.7, -51.3), MP (+12.8 +39.7), Maha (-8.3, -39.8), Raj (+7.6, +157.2), UP (+0.6, +224.0)
Cotton	83.73	58.08	69.4	69.85	-11.8	-16.9	AP (-2.8, -31.8), Guj (+4.1, +32.7), Har (-0.7, -13.5), MP (-1.0, -15.4), Maha (-9.1, -34.7), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.9, -50.8)
Sugarcane	41.47	43.19	104.1	52.82	-9.6	-18.2	AP (-1.0, -41.3), Bih (+0.4, +12.7), Har (-0.3, -16.7), Kar (-0.4, -14.0), Maha(-3.9, -35.7), Pun (-0.3, -21.5), TN (-0.3, -7.3), UP (-3.3, -15.0), Uttaran(-0.3, -24.8)
Jute	8.24	8.61	104.5	7.03	1.6	22.5	Bih (+0.3, +29.3), WB (+1.1, +21.6)
All- Crops	1018.83	501.27	49.2	487.89	13.37	2.7	

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 05.07.2008 **increased** by 0.02 percentage points to 11.91% from the previous week level of 11.89%. The inflation rate was 4.61% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.92% to 9.92%, (b) Manufactured products group increase by 0.15% to 10.79% followed by (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group increase by 0.67% to 16.94%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 28.06.2008 stood in the order of 19.25%, 50.20% and 30.52%.

Procurement :

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 17.07.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 17.07.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Punjab	67.81	99.39	75.68
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 – 6: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 18.07.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 18.07.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	63.45	52.36
Chhattisgarh	28.65	29.65	27.71
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.47	0.89
Orissa	20.02	22.10	18.92
Punjab	78.29	78.65	78.22
Tamil Nadu	10.77	7.87	10.74
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	27.75	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	8.71	6.03
All-India	251.07	265.19	246.67