

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 14th November, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 07.11.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *During the week ending 05th November, 2008, subdued rainfall activity was observed over South Peninsula and the same is likely to continue over the next week. No rainfall was reported in the met sub-divisions covered by NE monsoon. Rainfall received during the week for the country as whole was 0.3 mm.*
- *Maximum temperatures were above normal by 4-6^oC along Maharashtra and Gujarat Coast, by 2-4^oC over Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh and by 2-6^oC over NE India during many days of the week. They were below normal over Orissa, Gangetic West Bengal and extreme South Peninsula. Near normal temperature were reported over remaining parts of the country.*
- *In view of good rainfall in September 2008, large coverage in area of rabi crops is expected. Above normal temperature may not adversely affect sowing of the Rabi crops. Initial upward trends in rabi area of Jowar and Wheat have been noticed in most the States.*
- *In 81 important water reservoirs monitored by CWC in different parts of the country, total live storage has gone down from 108.11 BCM on 30.10.2008 to 104.74 BCM on 06.11.2008.*
- *As on 07.11.08, area sown under all kharif crops taken together has been reported to be 1022.02 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 1045.83 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 the corresponding period of last year. A comparative statement on area sown under various kharif crops as on 07.11.08 is attached.*
- *As on 07.11.08, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 173.05 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 124.30 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007.*
- *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 25.10.2008 increased to 10.72% from the previous week's level of 10.68%. 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 25.10.2008 increased to 7.50% from the previous week's level of 6.32%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has decreased to 3.43% from the previous week's level of 4.26%. Rate of Inflation based on WPI for Rice has increased to 8.51% from the previous week's level of 6.00%, Pulses to 9.29% from the previous week's level of 7.68% and Cereals to 7.20% from the previous week's level of 6.10%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items based on WPI increased to 11.77% from the previous week's level of 10.81% and for the food items to 8.84% from the previous week's level of 8.43%.*

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 5th November, 2008

- Subdued rainfall activity continued over South India during the week.
- Isolated to scattered rain/thundershower occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during many days and over Jammu and Kashmir, northeastern states, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry and Kerala on one or two days.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in one met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 8 met sub-divisions and no rain in 27 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st October to 5th November, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 7 and deficient / scanty in 29 sub-divisions.

Table-1: Weekly and Cumulative Rainfall in four regions of the country¹

Region	Week Ending (5.11.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 5.11.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	0.0	3.0	-99	S	15.2	31.6	-52	D
Central India	0.0	5.3	-100	NR	20.7	60.7	-66	S
South Peninsular India	0.6	27.7	-98	S	131.2	173.7	-24	D
North-East India	0.9	9.2	-91	S	88.8	131.5	-32	D
Country as a whole	0.3	9.6	-97	S	51.6	85.3	-40	D

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.

TEMPERATURE

Minimum

- The **cold wave conditions** prevailed over some parts of interior Karnataka during many days of the week. The minimum temperatures were appreciably to markedly **below normal** over remaining parts of interior Karnataka.
- They were **below normal** over remaining parts of South India during the week.
- They were **below normal** over Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh during first half of the week.
- They were **above normal** over west Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, west Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh during many days of the week. They were **above normal** over Saurashtra & Kutch and Northeastern states during second half of the week.
- They were **near normal** over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 06th - 12th November, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 12th November, 2008

- *A fresh western disturbance is likely to affect Western Himalayan region from 10th November, 08 onwards.*
- *A low pressure area is likely to develop over southeast Bay of Bengal around 11th November, 08 and move gradually westwards.*
- *Weak northeast monsoon condition is likely to continue over south peninsula during first half of the week. The rainfall is likely to increase thereafter. However scattered to fairly widespread rainfall is likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during the week*
- *Below normal to appreciable below normal minimum temperature conditions are likely over many parts of south India during first half of the week and increase in minimum temperature likely thereafter.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely **at a few places** over Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry and Kerala.*
- **Mainly dry** weather is likely over the rest region.

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 6.11.2008)

- 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 104.74 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 116.65 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 99.80 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

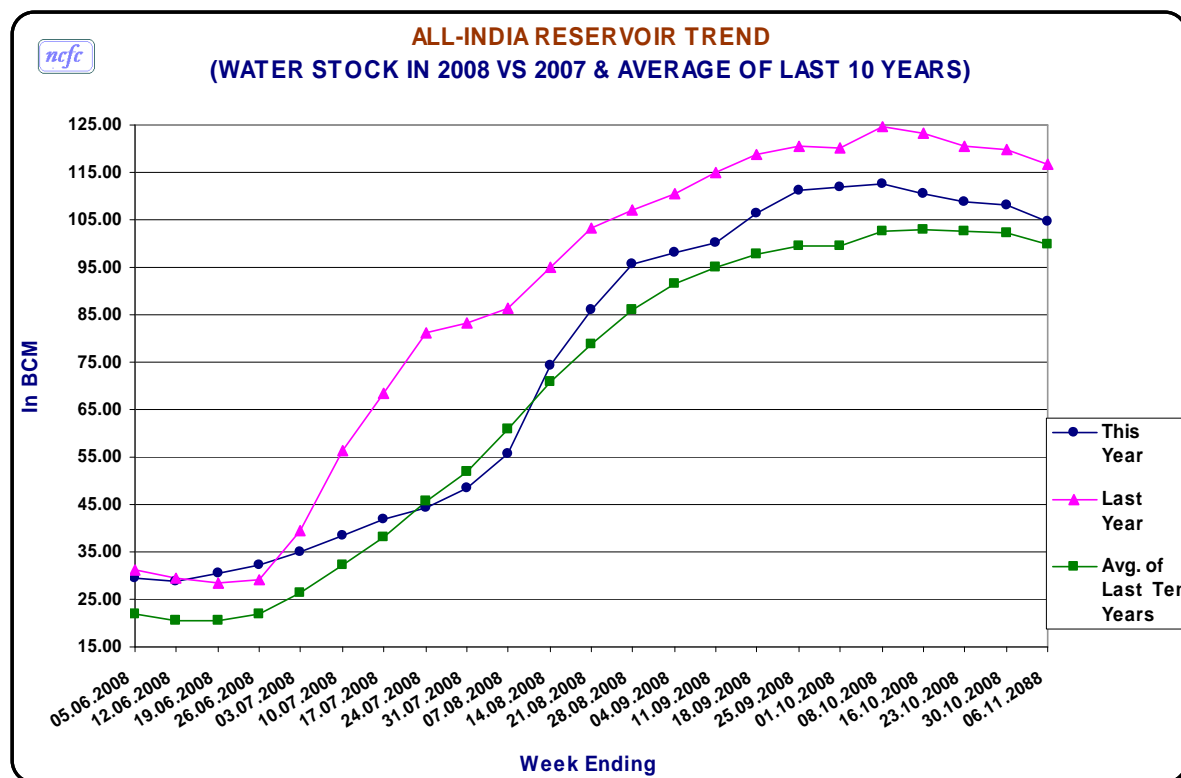
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	69	90	105
Last Week	71	90	106

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 77% on 06/11/2007, 81% on 06/11/2006, 82% on 06/11/2005 and 62% on 06/11/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 64 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.



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 31st October, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>	<i>Complex</i>
<i>Requirement for October, 2008</i>	<i>2268</i>	<i>1824</i>	<i>446</i>	<i>1039</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 31st October, 08</i>	<i>3010</i>	<i>1370</i>	<i>462</i>	<i>890</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 31st October, 08</i>	<i>1830</i>	<i>1356</i>	<i>377</i>	<i>833</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 31.10.2008</i>	<i>1180</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Requirement for November, 2008</i>	<i>3180</i>	<i>1482</i>	<i>468</i>	<i>1107</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 07-11-2008							
Crop Name	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
Wheat	265.30	22.67	8.5	21.01	1.7	7.9	Har (+0.7, +10.8), HP (+0.2, +100.0), Kar (+0.5, +43.0), MP (-0.2, -2.4), Pun (+0.4, +160.0), Raj (+0.8, +100.0), UP (-0.6, -18.5)
Rice	37.31	0.05	0.1	0.18	-0.1	-72.2	AP(-0.1, -76.5)
Jowar	49.11	37.36	76.1	31.26	6.1	19.5	Kar (+1.1, +18.7), Maha (+5.4, +22.2), TN (-0.2, -42.6)
Maize	8.15	1.77	21.7	1.13	0.6	56.6	AP (+0.3, +516.7), Kar (+0.2, 58.1),
Barley	6.50	0.45	6.9	0.08	0.4	462.5	Raj (+0.3, +660.0)
Total Coarse Cereals	63.60	39.78	62.5	32.58	7.2	22.1	AP (+0.2, +24.1), Kar (+1.3, +21.8), Maha (+5.5, +22.5), Raj (+0.3, +660.0), TN (-0.2, -22.2)
Total Cereals	366.21	62.50	17.1	53.77	8.7	16.2	
Gram	68.50	44.56	65.0	29.09	15.5	53.2	AP (+0.9, +26.0), Har (+0.2, +44.4), Kar (+1.9, +41.3), MP (+3.8, +31.0), Maha(+0.5, +15.1), Raj (+1.6, +31.5),UP (+6.6, +100.0)
Lentil	14.45	6.93	48.0	2.96	4.0	134.4	MP (+1.0, +31.6), UP (+2.9, +100.0)
Peas	7.41	5.29	71.4	1.29	4.0	311.0	MP (+0.6, +4.1), UP (+3.5, +100.0)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	3.10	2.02	65.3	2.52	-0.5	-19.6	AP (-0.1, -66.7), Ori (-0.4, -28.8)
Urad	7.30	0.98	13.4	1.03	0.0	-4.5	AP (-0.2, -56.3), Ori (+0.2, +37.8)
Moong	6.22	0.16	2.5	0.21	-0.1	-24.9	Ori (-0.1, -34.6)
Lathyrus	6.35	2.85	44.9	1.10	1.8	159.6	Chhat (+1.8, 159.6)
Others	2.99	1.07	35.7	0.86	0.2	23.6	
Total Pulses	115.99	63.85	55.0	39.05	24.8	63.5	AP (+0.7, +17.0), Chhat (+1.8, +121.5), Har (+0.2, +44.4), Kar (+1.9, +33.6), MP (+5.4, +32.2), Maha(+0.5, +14.6), Ori (-0.4, -18.7), Raj (+1.7, +34.8), UP (+13.0, +100.0)
Total Foodgrains	482.21	126.35	26.2	92.82	33.5	36.1	
Rapeseed & Mustard	63.25	34.80	55.0	21.18	13.6	64.3	Har (+1.3, +13.9), MP (+3.5, +107.5), Raj (+8.9, +67.6)
Groundnut	8.28	1.54	18.6	1.17	0.4	31.6	AP (+0.5, +69.2), TN (-0.1, -18.4)
Safflower	3.69	1.90	51.5	1.96	-0.1	-3.1	Maha (-0.1, -6.1)
Sunflower	13.04	6.64	50.9	5.10	1.5	30.2	AP (+0.6, +63.2), Kar (+1.0, +30.4), Maha (-0.1, -10.0)
Sesamum	2.41	0.13	5.4	0.17	0.0	-23.5	
Linseed	4.50	1.57	34.9	1.57	0.0	0.0	
Others	0.54	0.12	22.2	0.34	-0.2	-64.7	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	92.21	46.70	50.6	31.48	15.2	48.3	AP (+1.0, 52.8), Har (+1.3, +30.9), Kar (+1.0, +26.0), MP (+3.5, +81.5), Maha(-0.2, -8.5), Raj (+8.9, +67.6),
All- Crops	574.41	173.05	30.1	124.30	48.8	39.2	

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 25.10.2008 increased to 10.72% from the previous week's level of 10.68%. The inflation rate was 3.11% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.49% to 11.41%, (b) Manufactured products group declined by 0.17% to 9.09% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group remained unchanged at the previous week's level of 14.09%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 25.10.2008 stood in the order of 24.41%, 47.19% and 28.08%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 06.11.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 06.11.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	0.54	0.14
Chhattisgarh	27.43	0.56	-
Haryana	15.72	11.92	12.35
Kerala	1.68	0.36	0.30
Maharashtra	1.60	-	-
Orissa	23.49	-	-
Punjab	79.07	76.97	66.97
Tamil Nadu	9.68	1.57	-
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	1.22	0.22
Uttaranchal	1.47	0.02	0.02
West Bengal	15.08	-	-
All-India	285.02	93.22	80.10