

**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 07th October, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 03.10.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Most parts of the country reported scanty/deficient rainfall during the week ending 30th September, 2008.*
- *During the period 1st June to 30th September, 08, cumulative monsoon rainfall received for the country as whole was 873.2 mm which is 2% below normal. It was excess/normal in 32 met sub-divisions and deficient in 4 met sub-divisions.*
- *The met sub-divisions with excess/normal rainfall covered around 92% of the total geographical area of the country. Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient rainfall include NMMT(-21%), West Madhya Pradesh(-22%), Vidarbha(-21%) and Kerala (-22%).*
- *Cumulative rainfall is normal in all the four broad divisions of the country. It was above LPA in North-west India (7%), below LPA in Central India (-4%), South Peninsula (-4%), and North-east India (-6%).*
- *This year monsoon was very good in terms of quantity as well as its evenly distribution in various parts of the country. No major drought affected area were reported and no long dry spells were observed. These facts are expected to improve productivity of kharif crops.*
- *There are no met sub-divisions in the drought category this year. No. of deficient met sub-divisions are only four this year as compared to six last years.*
- *As on 03.10.08, area sown under all kharif crops taken together has been reported to be 1007.61 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 1033.33 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 03.10.08 is attached.*
- *Area under pulses is not likely to improve further due to deficient rainfall at critical time particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka.*
- *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 20.09.2008 declined to 11.99% from the previous week's level of 12.14%. The inflation rate was 3.51% during the corresponding period last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 20.09.2008 increased to 6.69% from the previous week's level of 6.63%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has increased to 7.95% from the previous week's level of 7.57%, Rice has decreased to 5.03% from the previous week's level of 5.45%, Cereals to 6.29% from the previous week's level of 6.38% and Pulses has increased to 9.29% from the previous week's level of 8.39%.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI decreased to 14.49% from the previous week's level of 16.50% and for the food items, it increased to 7.52% from the previous week's level of 7.16%.*
- *In flood areas of Bihar, while some area have thick deposition of sand which will be difficult to reclaim in the ensuing rabi season, other large parts can be reclaimed for rabi crops/vegetables. State Deptts. have been advised to keep the vegetable seedling and other seeds ready for use of farmers.*

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Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Monsoon Rainfall (June - September) during the week ending on 01st October, 2008

- **Withdrawal of Southwest monsoon commenced from the North-western parts of the country on 29th September 08 against the normal date of 1st September, 08.**
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Gangetic West Bengal during 25-29th, Jharkhand during 25-26th, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura during 26-30th, Assam & Meghalaya during 27-30th, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during 28-29th and Arunachal Pradesh and Bihar during 29th- 30th and East Uttar Pradesh on 30th September and 1st October, 08. **Southwest monsoon was active/vigorous** over Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam & Meghalaya for one or two days.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during many days and over Lakshadweep, Interior Karnataka and Rayalaseema on first day of the week.
- **Isolated rainfall** occurred over Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry and remaining parts of Andhra Pradesh during many days of the week.
- Mainly **dry weather** prevailed over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 03 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 30 met sub-division and no rain in 3 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 30th September, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 32 and deficient / scanty in 4 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (30.09.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 30.09.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Deviation (%)	Category
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	1.6	17.2	-91	S	651.7	611.6	7	N
Central India	3.2	29.4	-89	S	956.9	993.9	-4	N
South India Peninsular	7.3	40.7	-82	S	692.5	722.6	-4	N
North-East India	47.3	56.7	-17	N	1346.0	1427.3	-6	N
Country as a whole	10.6	32.2	-67	S	873.2	892.2	-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 03rd - 08th October, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 08th October, 2008

- Further withdrawal of southwest monsoon is likely from remaining parts of northwest India, some more parts of west India & adjoining central India.
- Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over northeastern States.
- A western disturbance is likely to affect Western Himalayan Region during second half of the week.
- Isolated to scattered rainfall activity likely over south India.

Warning:

- Isolated heavy rainfall is likely over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura and Assam & Meghalaya during next 48 hours.

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Uttarakhand and West Uttar Pradesh.
- Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over West Bengal and Sikkim.
- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Assam & Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.
- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over the rest region.

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Coastal Karnataka.
- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over rest region.

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over South Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra and Marathwada.
- Isolated rain/thundershowers are over South Gujarat Region.
- Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.

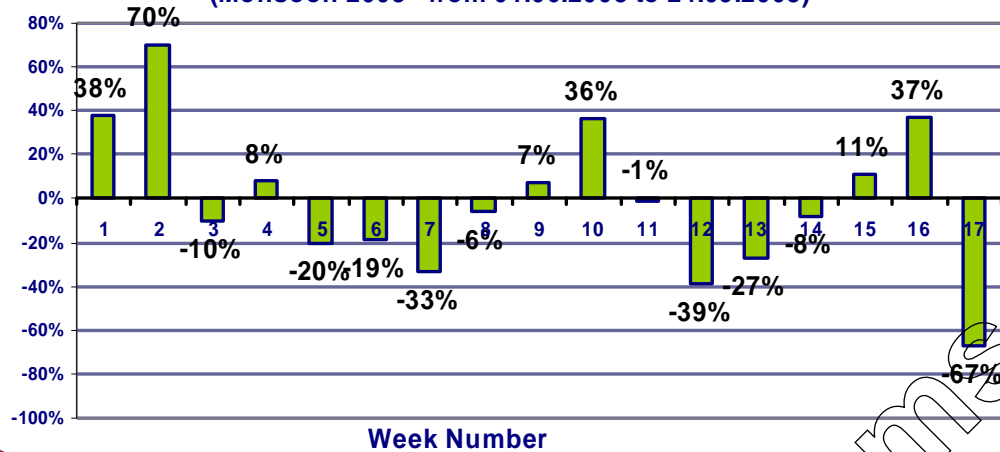
Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Chhattisgarh and Vidarbha.
- Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.

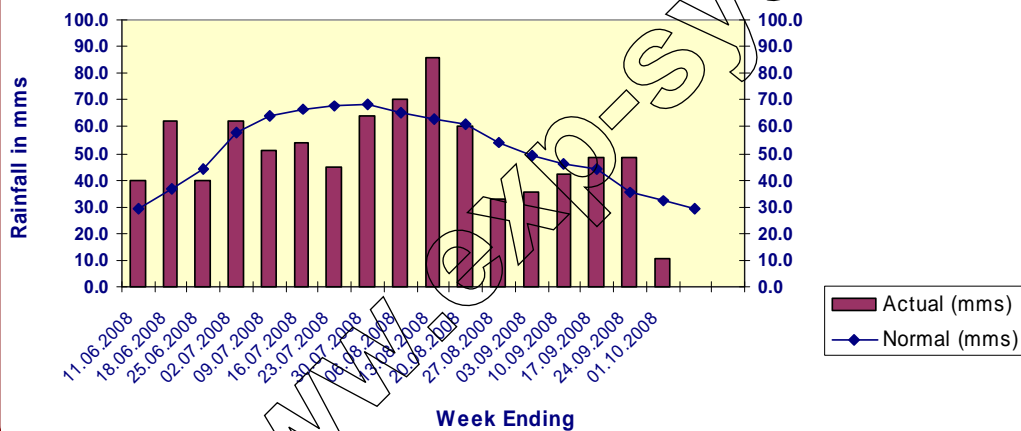


Weekly Percentage Rainfall Deviation from Normal(LPA)- All India

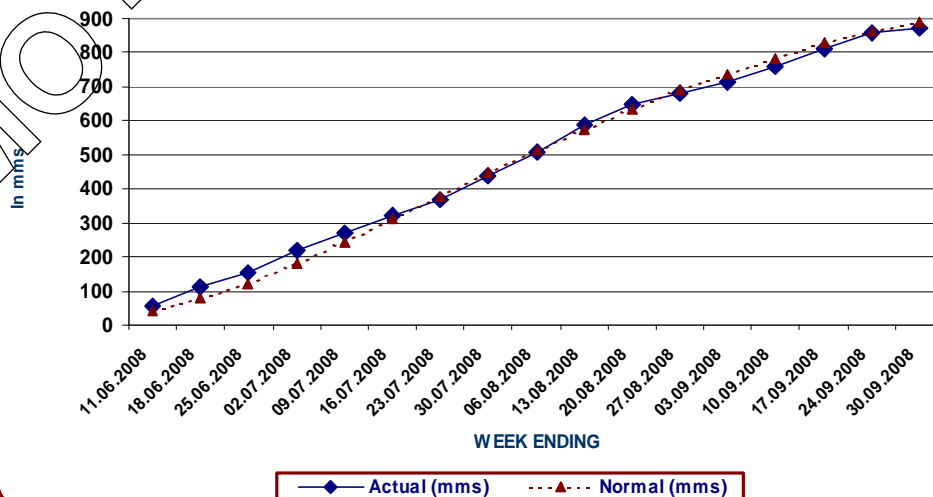
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 24.09.2008)



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 01.10.2008)

- 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 111.96 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 120.12 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 99.48 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

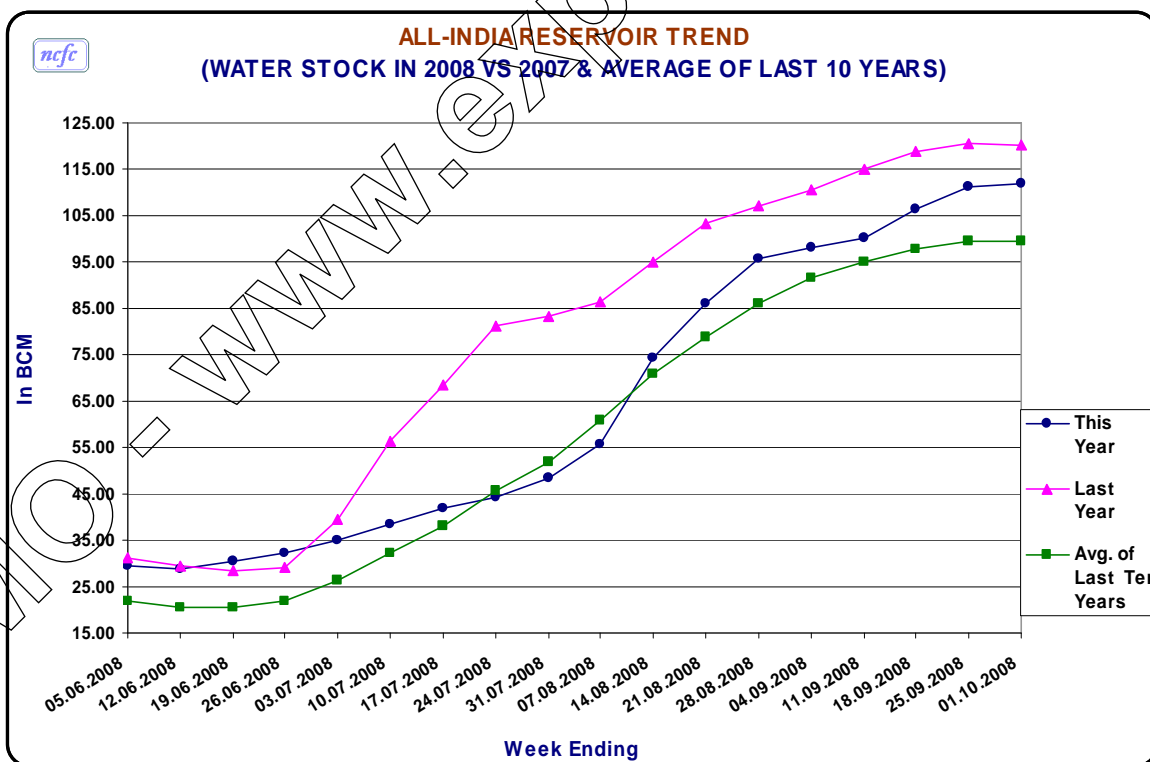
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	74	93	113
Last Week	73	92	112

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 79% on 01/10/2007, 88% on 01/10/2006, 82% on 01/10/2005 and 64% on 01/10/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 68 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 8 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 5 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 April to 30th September, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>	<i>Complex</i>
<i>Requirement 2008</i>	<i>13711</i>	<i>4276</i>	<i>1720</i>	<i>4898</i>
<i>Availability during 1st April to 25th September, 08</i>	<i>13324</i>	<i>4934</i>	<i>2243</i>	<i>3667</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 25th September, 08</i>	<i>12118</i>	<i>4637</i>	<i>2059</i>	<i>3368</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 25.09.2008</i>	<i>1206</i>	<i>298</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>300</i>
<i>Requirement for September, 2008</i>	<i>2090</i>	<i>751</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>858</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 03-10-2008									
Crop Name	IV Advance Estimate 2007-08	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. yr		Remarks	
			This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	(In lakh hectares)			
						Absolute	Percentage		
Changes in major States (abs. %)									
Rice	393.83	391.17	381.35	97.5	369.17	12.2	3.3	AP(+1.9, +8.4), Ass(+0.5, +2.5), Bih(+1.5, +4.7), Chhat(+0.5, +1.3), Guj (-0.3, -3.5), Har(+0.4, +3.7), Jhar(+0.5, +3.1), Kar(+0.7, +7.4), MP (+1.6, +11.5), Maha(-0.4, -2.8), Pun(+0.5, +1.9), TN(-0.2, -4.5), UP (+3.4, +5.8), WB (+1.2, +2.8)	
Jowar	35.65	42.08	29.13	69.2	33.94	-4.8	-14.2	AP (-0.3, -16.9), Kar (-0.8, -24.7), MP (-0.3, -6.2), Maha(-2.9, -23.8), Raj (+0.4, +8.0), TN (-0.3, -18.6), UP (-0.7, -23.6)	
Bajra	95.10	91.81	77.74	84.7	82.73	-5.0	-6.0	AP (-0.2, -30.2), Guj (-2.2, -29.7), Har (+0.5, +7.1), Kar (-1.8, -46.3), MP (-0.3, -14.1), Maha (-3.4, -28.2), Raj (+0.6, +1.3), TN (+0.5, +196.2), UP (+0.4, +5.1)	
Maize	71.36	63.71	71.20	111.8	73.51	-2.3	-3.1	AP(-0.5, -9.7), J&K(-0.2, -8.2), Kar(-1.5, -14.0), Maha(-0.5, -8.9), Raj(+0.4, +3.8), TN (+0.6, +72.0), UP (-0.5, -5.4)	
Total Coarse Cereals	226.11	226.54	197.83	87.3	211.37	-13.5	-6.4	AP(-1.1, -12.3), Chhat(-0.2, -6.5), Guj(-2.4, -18.8), Har(+0.7, +8.9), J&K(-0.2, -10.6), Kar (-4.0, -15.2), MP (-0.9, -5.1), Maha(-6.8, -21.0), Raj(+1.4, +2.4), TN (+0.7, +24.7), UP (-0.8, -3.9)	
Total Cereals	619.94	617.71	579.18	93.8	580.54	-1.4	-0.2		
Tur	37.49	34.60	34.53	99.8	38.54	-4.0	-10.4	AP(-0.3, -7.2), Bih(-0.3, -46.9), Guj (-0.3, -9.9), Kar(-0.6, -9.3), Maha(-1.7, -14.4), TN (+0.2, +43.9), UP (-0.7, -14.3)	
Urad	24.34	25.31	21.84	86.3	27.54	-5.7	-20.7	AP (-0.3, -29.3), Kar (-0.8, -33.1), MP (-0.6, -10.2), Maha (-3.0, -48.7), Ori (+0.4, +15.0), Raj (-0.2, -9.3), TN (-0.2, -40.0), UP (-1.2, -23.2)	
Moong	30.50	26.16	24.03	91.9	31.69	-7.7	-24.2	AP(-1.1, -33.0), Guj(-0.5, -22.0), Kar(-2.7, -56.8), Maha(-2.9, -40.7), Raj(-0.4, -4.2)	
Others	23.57	22.64	23.77	105.0	25.25	-1.5	-5.9		
Total Pulses	115.90	108.71	104.18	95.8	123.02	-18.8	-15.3	AP(-3.8, -34.5), Bih (-0.5, -42.2), Chhat (-0.2, -4.8), Guj(-1.0, -14.0), Jhar (-0.6, -33.3), Kar (-4.1, -27.3), MP (-0.8, -7.4), Maha(-8.4, -31.6), Ori (+0.7, +10.6), Raj (+2.3, +9.5), TN (-0.5, -27.9), UP(-1.9, -18.7)	
Total Foodgrains	735.84	726.42	683.36	94.1	703.56	-20.2	-2.9		
Groundnut	53.01	53.54	51.93	97.0	53.77	-1.8	-3.4	AP (-1.0, -6.6), Guj (+1.2, +7.3), Kar (-0.9, -11.9), MP(-0.3, -14.0), Maha (-0.7, -22.8), Raj (+0.2, +4.8), TN (-0.3, -9.3)	
Soyabean	88.81	72.54	96.24	132.7	87.60	8.6	9.9	AP(+0.5, +42.5), Guj (+0.2, +22.1), Kar(+0.4, +24.2), MP(+2.6, +5.4), Maha(+4.2, +15.7), Raj(+1.0, +13.3)	
Sunflower	7.68	7.59	6.53	86.0	7.45	-0.3	-12.3	AP (-0.4, -36.4), Kar (-0.8, -14.9), Maha (+0.2, +27.0)	
Sesamum	17.61	14.48	15.24	105.2	16.19	-6.9	-5.9	AP (-0.4, -47.8), Guj (-0.6, -20.8), Kar(-0.3, -38.8), MP(-0.4, -14.8), Maha (-0.3, -35.5), Ori (+0.2, +10.9), Raj (+0.8, +24.1)	
Niger	4.14	3.83	3.35	87.5	3.70	-0.4	-9.5		
Castor	7.43	7.01	8.61	122.8	7.75	0.9	11.1		
Total Oilseed (Nine)	178.68	158.97	181.90	114.4	176.47	5.43	3.1	AP (-1.8, -8.6), Chhat (+0.3, +11.6), Guj (+1.9, +7.8), Kar (-1.7, -11.0), MP (+1.7, +3.1), Maha (+3.4, +10.5), Ori (-0.3, -8.2), Raj (+2.1, +13.5), TN (-0.2, -6.1)	
Cotton	94.23	83.73	90.83	108.5	92.09	-1.3	-1.4	AP(+2.4, +22.2), Guj(-1.0, -4.0), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Kar (+0.4, +18.8), Maha (-0.6, -1.8), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.5, -41.0)	
Sugarcane	50.43	41.47	44.15	106.5	52.95	-8.8	-16.6	AP (-1.1, -46.2), 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	8.16	8.24	7.57	89.4	8.26	-0.9	-10.8	Bih(+0.1, +8.1), WB (-1.0, -16.4)	
All- Crops	1067.34	1018.83	1067.67	98.9	1033.33	-25.72	-2.5		

Source: Crops & TMOP Divisions, DAC

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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 20.09.2008 declined to 11.99% from the previous week's level of 12.14%. The inflation rate was 3.51% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.27% to 11.29%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.06% to 10.55% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group by 0.14% to 16.52%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 20.09.2008 stood in the order of 21.77%, 48.92% and 29.33%.

Procurement :

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 25.09.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 25.09.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	70.90	53.25
Chhattisgarh	28.65	26.62	28.44
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.60	0.96
Orissa	20.02	23.29	19.17
Punjab	78.29	79.05	78.28
Tamil Nadu	10.77	9.43	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.91	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	14.02	6.40
All-India	251.07	280.41	249.13