

**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 16th October, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 10.10.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *During the first week of Post-Monsoon season ending 08th October, 2008 most parts of the country reported scanty/deficient rainfall. Rainfall received during the week for the country as whole was 18.7 mm .*
- *Total live storage in 81 important water reservoirs in different parts of the country as on 8.10.2008 was 112.69 Billion Cubic Meters (BCM) which is 74% of the storage capacity at Full Reservoir Level (FRL). Current year's storage till date is nearly 90% of the last year's storage.*
- *As on 10.10.08, area sown under all kharif crops taken together has been reported to be 1009.02 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 1035.53 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 10.10.08 is attached.*
- *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 27.09.2008 declined to 11.80% from the previous week's level of 11.99%. The inflation rate was 3.36% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 27.09.2008 decreased to 6.50% from the previous week's level of 6.69%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has decreased to 7.76% from the previous week's level of 7.95%, Rice has decreased to 4.87% from the previous week's level of 5.03%, Cereals to 6.04% from the previous week's level of 6.29%. Rate of Inflation based on WPI for Pulses has increased to 9.62% from the previous week's level of 9.29%.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI decreased to 13.72% from the previous week's level of 14.49% and for the food items, it increased to 7.61% from the previous week's level of 7.52%.*

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 08th October, 2008

- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and Assam & Meghalaya during many days of the week.
- **Isolated to scattered rainfall** occurred over over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Jammu & Kashmir, west Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Rayalaseema and Kerala during few days of the week and over Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Gangetic West Bengal, Orissa, Uttarakhand, East Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Vidarbha, coastal Andhra Pradesh and coastal & interior Karnataka 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 15 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 21 met sub-divisions. (Sub-division wise weekly rainfall distribution is given in **Annex-I**).
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st October to 08th October, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 11 and deficient / scanty in 25 sub-divisions. (The sub-division-wise seasonal rainfall distribution is given in Annex II).

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

Region	Week Ending (08.10.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 08.10.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	6.7	11.7	-43	D	7.2	13.5	-47	D
Central India	15.6	20.7	-25	D	16.1	24.4	-34	D
South Peninsular India	21.5	40.0	-46	D	22.0	45.5	-52	D
North-East India	42.1	49.4	-15	N	42.1	57.6	-27	D
Country as a whole	18.2	26.3	-31	D	18.7	30.5	-39	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.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 03rd - 08th October, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 15th October, 2008

- *Further withdrawal of southwest monsoon is likely within next 2-3 days from remaining parts of northwest India, some more parts of west India & adjoining central India.*
- *Under the influence of a fresh western disturbance approaching our region, isolated to scattered rainfall activity is likely over Western Himalayan region during second half of the week.*
- *Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall is likely over extreme south peninsula during second half of the week.*

Warning:

- *Isolated heavy rainfall is likely over Tamil Nadu and Kerala*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Jammu & Kashmir and **Isolated** over Himachal Pradesh.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- ***Isolated** rain/thundershowers are likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely **at many places** over Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Lakshadweep.*
- ***Isolated** rain/thundershowers are likely over South Interior Karnataka, South Coastal Andhra Pradesh during next 24 hours and increase thereafter.*
- ***Isolated** rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

- ***Isolated** rain/thundershowers are likely over north Konkan & Goa during next 24 hours and mainly dry weather thereafter.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 08.10.2008)

- 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 112.69 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 124.53 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 102.55 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

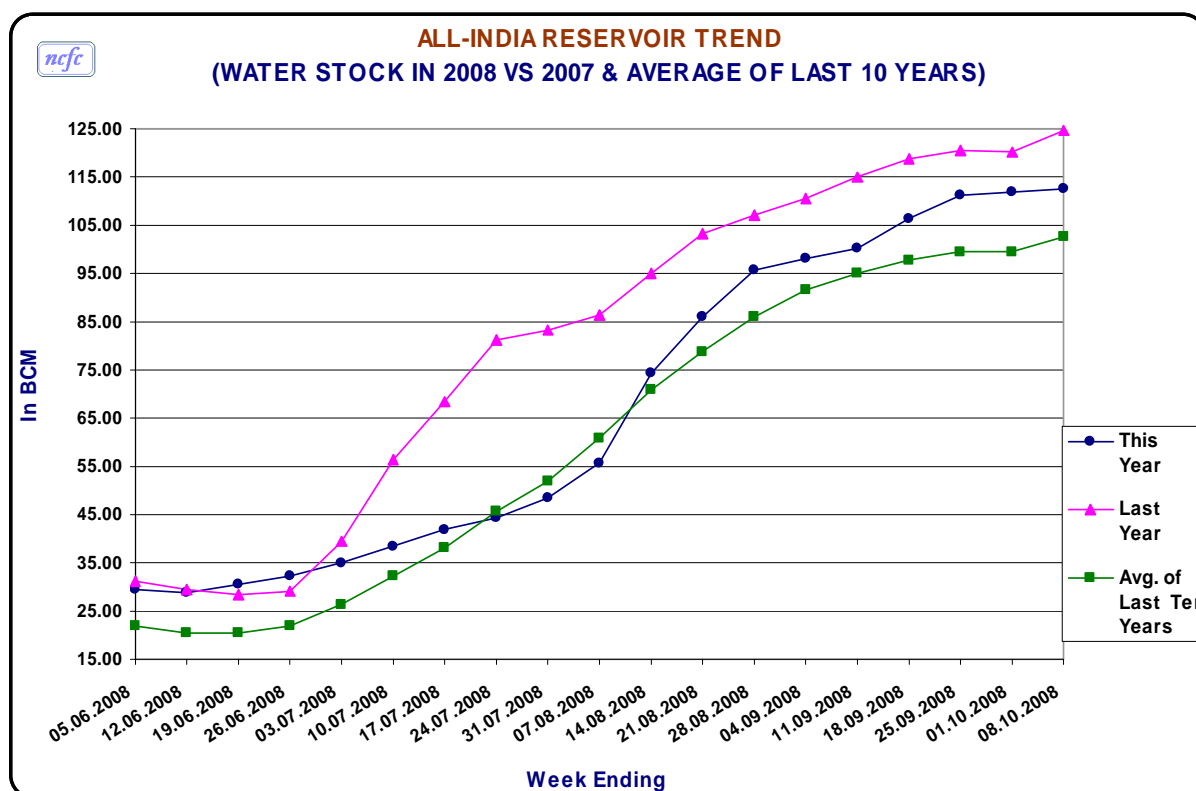
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	74	90	110
Last Week	74	93	113

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 82% on 08/10/2007, 88% on 08/10/2006, 82% on 08/10/2005 and 65% on 08/10/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 67 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 9 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 10-10-2008										
Crop Name	IV Advance Estimate 2007-08	Normal Area	(In lakh hectares)				Change vis-à-vis prev. ye		Remarks	
			Area sown reported			Last Year	Absolute	Percentage		Changes in major States (abs. %)
			This Year	% of Normal						
Rice	393.83	391.17	381.54	97.5	370.87	10.7	2.9	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), MP (+0.5, +3.6), Maha(-0.2, -1.4), 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	579.37	93.8	582.24	-2.9	-0.5			
Tur	37.49	34.60	34.53	99.8	38.55	-4.0	-10.4	AP(-0.3, -7.2), Bih(-0.3, -45.9), Guj (-0.3, -8.9), 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	21.88	86.5	27.57	-5.7	-20.6	AP (-0.3, -29.3), Kar (-0.5, -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	31.71	-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	23.78	105.0	25.50	-1.7	-6.8			
Total Pulses	115.90	108.71	104.23	95.9	123.33	-19.1	-15.5	AP(-3.8, -34.5), Bih (-0.5, -42.2), Chhat (-0.5, -10.4), 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	683.60	94.1	705.57	-22.0	-3.1			
Groundnut	53.01	53.54	52.53	98.1	53.94	-1.4	-2.6	AP (-1.0, -6.5), 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)		
Soyabean	88.81	72.54	96.44	132.9	87.60	8.8	10.1	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	6.57	86.6	7.44	-0.9	-11.7	AP (-0.4, -32.5), Kar (-0.8, -14.9), Maha (+0.2, +27.0)		
Sesamum	17.61	14.48	15.34	105.9	16.19	-0.8	-5.3	AP (-0.4, -46.7), 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	3.45	90.1	3.70	-0.3	-6.8			
Castor	7.43	7.01	8.65	123.4	7.76	0.9	11.5			
Total Oilseed (Nine)	178.68	158.97	182.98	115.1	176.64	6.34	3.6	AP (-1.7, -8.1), Chhat (+0.4, +15.3), Guj (+1.9, +7.8), Kar (-1.7, -11.0), MP (+1.7, +3.1), Maha (+3.4, +10.5), Raj (+2.1, +13.5), TN (+0.3, +6.6)		
Cotton	94.23	83.73	90.92	108.6	92.11	-1.2	-1.3	AP(+2.4, +22.2), Guj(-1.0, -4.0), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Kar (+0.5, +21.8), 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	7.37	89.4	8.26	-0.9	-10.8	Bih(+0.1, +8.1), WB (-1.0, -16.4)		
All- Crops	1067.34	1018.83	1009.02	99.0	1035.53	-26.52	-2.6			

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 27.09.2008 declined to 11.80% from the previous week's level of 11.99%. The inflation rate was 3.36% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.12% to 11.17%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.22% to 10.33% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group remained steady at the previous week's level of 16.52%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 27.09.2008 stood in the order of 21.85%, 48.69% and 29.80%.