

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 October, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD ON
17.10.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *South Peninsula receives around 30% rainfall in North-east Monsoon season.*
- *Normal rainfall for sub-divisions covered by North-east monsoon (as % of annual rainfall) is Coastal AP (32%), Rayalseema (31%), South Interior Karnataka (20%), Kerala (16%) and Tamil Nadu (47%).*
- *IMD forecast is that NE monsoon rainfall is likely to be normal with good chance (57%) to be on the positive side of the normal.*
- *Over Tamil Nadu, North-east monsoon rainfall is likely to be normal.*
- *Southwest monsoon withdrew from the entire country on 15th October, 2008. Simultaneously, the Northeast monsoon rains commenced over the Peninsular India on 15th October, 2008.*
- *During the week ending 15th October, 2008 of Post-Monsoon season most parts of the country reported scanty/deficient rainfall. Rainfall received during the week for the country as whole was 7.8 mm .*
- *In 81 important water reservoirs monitored by CWC in different parts of the country total live storage has gone down from 112.69 BCM on 08.10.2008 to 110.53 BCM on 16.10.2008.*
- *As on 17.10.08, area sown under all kharif crops taken together has been reported to be 1014.81 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 1039.23 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 17.10.08 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 04.10.2008 declined to 11.44% from the previous week's level of 11.80%. The inflation rate was 3.22% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 04.10.2008 increased to 6.79% from the previous week's level of 6.50%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has decreased to 7.62% from the previous week's level of 7.76%, and pulses to 9.34% from the previous week's level of 9.62%. Rate of Inflation based on WPI for Rice has increased to 5.19% from the previous week's level of 4.87% and Cereals to 6.39% from the previous week's level of 6.04%.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI increased to 13.92% from the previous week's level of 13.72% and for the food items, it increased to 9.69% from the previous week's level of 7.61%.*

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 15th October, 2008

- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Northeastern States and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during first two days of the week. Rainfall activity over these regions decreased thereafter.
- **Isolated to scattered rainfall** activity occurred over extreme South Peninsula during first half of the week. **The rainfall activity** increased thereafter, especially over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry with **fairly widespread rainfall**.
- **Isolated rain/thundershower** occurred over Orissa, Gangetic West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra during first half of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 5 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 29 met sub-divisions and no rain in 2 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st October to 15th October, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 5 and deficient / scanty in 31 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (15.10.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 15.10.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Deviation (%)	Category
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	2.5	8.7	-71	S	9.3	22.2	-58	D
Central India	3.8	14.5	-74	S	19.7	38.8	-49	D
South Peninsular India	24.1	31.2	-23	D	45.9	76.7	-40	D
North-East India	6.3	30.3	-79	S	48.1	87.9	-45	D
Country as a whole	7.8	18.5	-58	D	26.2	49.0	-47	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

Maximum

- Maximum temperatures were above normal by 2-6°C over many parts of the country excluding northwest India and extreme south peninsula during the week. They were also above normal over extreme south peninsula during first half and normal/below normal during second half of the week. They were near normal over northwest India during the week.

Minimum

- The minimum temperatures were above normal by 2-4°C over many parts of central India, plains of northwest India and west India excluding Maharashtra during many days of the week. They were near normal over Maharashtra and remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 16th - 22nd October, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 22nd October, 2008

- *Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, South Peninsula and Lakshadweep Islands. Intensity is likely to increase along the East coast and Andaman & Nicobar Islands towards the end of the week.*
- *The low pressure area over southeast Arabian Sea is likely to be more marked and move West-northwestwards.*
- *Under the influence of the western disturbance, scattered to fairly widespread precipitation is likely over Western Himalayan region during first two days of the week and decrease thereafter. Another fresh western disturbance is likely to affect this region from 20th October, 08 onwards.*
- *Scattered precipitation is likely over Northeastern States during second half of the week.*

Warning:

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

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Isolated rain/snow are likely over Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

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

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

- *Mainly dry weather is 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, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over South Konkan & Goa.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 16.10.2008)

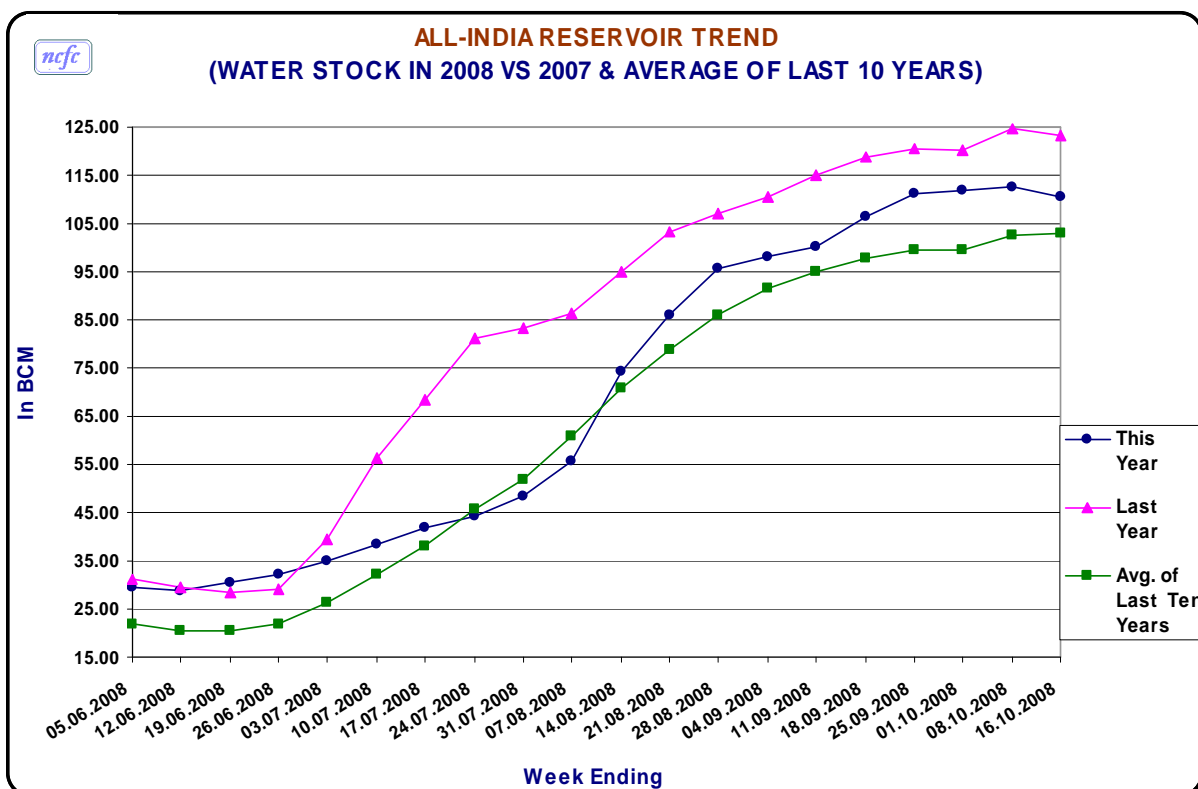
- The **Central Water Commission** monitors the live storage of **81** important/major reservoirs, having Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of **151.77** billion cubic meters (BCM), which is about 72% of total reservoir capacity in the country.
- Water stock in 81 major reservoirs **decreased** to 110.53 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 123.16 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 102.86 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	73	90	107
Last Week	74	90	110
The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 81% on 16/10/2007, 86% on 16/10/2006, 81% on 16/10/2005 and 65% on 16/10/2004 .			
* 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%, 12 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 October to 16th 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 16th October, 08</i>	<i>1322</i>	<i>460</i>	<i>243</i>	<i>364</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 16th October, 08</i>	<i>220</i>	<i>208</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>119</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 16.10.2008</i>	<i>1102</i>	<i>252</i>	<i>166</i>	<i>245</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 - Kharif (2008-09) as on 17-10-2008								
Crop Name	IV Advance Estimate 2007-08	Normal Area	(In lakh hectares)					Remarks
			Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. ye		
			This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
			Changes in major States (abs. %)					
Rice	393.83	391.17	384.75	98.4	373.79	11.0	2.9	AP(+2.1, +9.1), 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), Ker (-0.2, -16.0), MP (+0.5, +3.6), Maha(-0.2, -1.4), Pun(+0.5, +1.9), UP (+3.4, +5.8), WB (+1.2, +2.8)
Jowar	35.65	42.08	29.99	71.3	34.56	-4.6	-13.2	AP (-0.2, -15.4), Kar (-0.7, -24.3), MP (-0.3, -6.2), Maha(-2.9, -23.8), Raj (+0.4, +8.0), UP (-0.7, -23.6)
Bajra	95.10	91.81	76.93	83.8	82.75	-5.8	-7.0	AP (-0.2, -28.6), 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, +175.0), UP (+0.4, +5.1)
Maize	71.36	63.71	71.47	112.2	74.03	-2.6	-3.5	AP(-0.5, -8.1), J&K(-0.2, -8.2), Kar(-1.4, -13.1), Maha (-0.5, -8.7), Raj(+0.4, +3.8), HP(-0.2, -6.0), UP (-0.5, -5.4)
Total Coarse Cereals	226.11	226.54	199.85	88.2	211.37	-11.5	-5.5	AP(-0.9, -10.0), Chhat(-0.2, -6.1), Guj(-2.4, -18.7), Har(+0.7, +8.9), J&K(-0.2, -9.3), Kar (-3.4, -13.1), MP (-0.9, -5.1), Maha (-6.8, -21.0), Raj (+1.4, +2.4), TN (+1.9, +63.9), UP (-0.8, -3.9)
Total Cereals	619.94	617.71	584.60	94.6	585.16	-0.6	-0.1	
Tur	37.49	34.60	34.57	99.9	38.55	-4.0	-10.3	AP(-0.3, -6.4), 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	21.89	86.5	27.57	-5.7	-20.6	AP (-0.3, -28.3), 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	23.82	105.2	25.50	-1.7	-6.6	
Total Pulses	115.90	108.71	104.32	96.0	123.33	-19.0	-15.4	AP(-3.7, -34.1), 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	688.92	94.8	708.49	-19.6	-2.8	
Groundnut	53.01	53.54	52.87	98.7	53.88	-1.0	-1.9	AP (-0.6, -4.2), Guj (+1.2, +7.3), Kar (-0.8, -11.5), 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	6.67	87.9	7.49	-0.8	-10.9	AP (-0.4, -34.7), Kar (-0.7, -12.9), Maha (+0.2, +27.0)
Sesamum	17.61	14.48	15.34	105.9	16.22	-0.9	-5.4	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	3.46	90.3	4.38	-0.9	-21.0	
Castor	7.43	7.01	8.67	123.7	7.85	0.8	10.4	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	178.68	158.97	183.45	115.4	177.42	6.03	3.4	AP (-1.4, -6.6), Chhat (-0.3, -9.1), Guj (+1.9, +7.8), Kar (-1.6, -10.1), MP (+1.7, +3.1), Maha (+3.4, +10.5), Raj (+2.1, +13.5), TN (+0.2, +4.25)
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	1014.81	99.6	1039.23	-24.42	-2.3	

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 04.10.2008 declined to 11.44% from the previous week's level of 11.80%. The inflation rate was 3.22% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 1.51% to 12.68%, (b) Manufactured products group decline by 0.64% to 9.69% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 1.88% to 14.64%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 04.10.2008 stood in the order of 25.34%, 47.16% and 27.41%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 16.10.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 16.10.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17		
Chhattisgarh	27.43		
Haryana	15.72	7.75	6.68
Kerala	1.68	0.16	0.11
Maharashtra	1.60		
Orissa	23.49		
Punjab	79.07	29.16	31.05
Tamil Nadu	9.68	0.65	-
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	0.01	-
Uttaranchal	1.47		
West Bengal	15.08		
All-India	285.02	37.74	37.87