

**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 17th September, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 12.09.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Out of 36 met sub-divisions in the country, 18 sub-divisions received excess/normal rainfall, another 9 received deficient rainfall and remaining 9 received scanty rainfall during the week.*
- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole during the period 1st June to 10th September, 08 was 760.6 mm which is 3% below normal. It was excess/normal in 31 met sub-divisions and deficient in 5 met sub-divisions. The met sub-divisions with excess/normal rainfall covered around 86% of the total geographical area of the country.*
- *Cumulative monsoon rainfall is normal in all the four broad divisions of the country. It was above LPA in North-west India (7%) and South Peninsula (4%), below LPA in Central India (-10%) and North-east India (-5%).*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient rainfall include NMMT (-23%), West Madhya Pradesh (-23%), Saurashtra & Kutch (-25%), Marathwada (-25%) and Kerala (-22%).*
- *At All India level and as on 05.09.08, area sown under all kharif crops has been reported to be 984.23 lakh hectares as compared to 1007.30 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 12.09.08 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 30.08.2008 decreased by 0.24 percentage points to 12.10% from the previous week's level of 12.34%. The inflation rate was 3.72% during the corresponding period last year.*

- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 30.08.2008 increased to 6.18% from the previous week's level of 5.65%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Cereals has increased to 5.87% from the previous week's level of 5.68% and Pulses to 8.20% from the previous week's level of 5.70%.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI increased to 17.95% from the previous week's level of 17.12% and for the food items, it decreased to 4.58% from the previous week's level of 6.04%.*

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 10th September, 2008

- **Fairly widespread/ widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during first three days of the week and rainfall activity decreased thereafter.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Gangetic West Bengal, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Rayalaseema during many days of the week and Northeast India during 5th -7th September, 08
- **Fairly widespread/ widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Konkan & Goa Madhya Maharashtra, Marathawada, Vidarbha, North Interior Karnataka and Kerala during many days of the week and over Coastal & South Interior Karnataka, Lakshadweep Islands and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during second half of the week.
- **Isolated to scattered** rainfall occurred 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 18 sub-divisions and deficient / scanty in 18 sub-divisions met sub-division.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 10th September, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 31 and deficient / scanty in 5 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (10.09.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 10.09.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devi-ation (%)	Cate-gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	18.6	32.2	-42	D	760.6	784.7	7	N
Central India	52.4	54.6	-4	N	585.3	546.9	-10	N
South Peninsular India	59.8	32.3	85	E	796.7	886.0	4	N
North-East India	44.7	70.6	-37	D	632.5	609.4	-5	N
Country as a whole	42.2	45.9	-8	N	1179.7	1244.7	-3	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 11th - 17th September, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 17th September, 2008

- *The ongoing enhanced rainfall activity over Andhra Pradesh and adjoining Orissa is likely to decrease from 12th with westward movement of the well marked low pressure area over west central Bay of Bengal and adjoining north Coastal Andhra Pradesh.*
- *A fresh low pressure area is likely to form over westcentral and adjoining northwest Bay of Bengal around 15th. Subsequently it may concentrate into a depression. Under its influence, fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over north Andhra Pradesh and adjoining Orissa from 15th September, 08 onwards.*
- *Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra and south Gujarat Region during first half of the week. Enhanced rainfall activity is likely to be confined to west coast only during second half of the week.*
- *Conditions are likely to be favourable for withdrawal of southwest monsoon from West Rajasthan during the week.*

Warning:

- *Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Konkan & Goa, Coastal Karnataka, Telangana, Marathwada and Madhya Maharashtra.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Uttarakhand, West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi.*
- *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 Coastal Orissa.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Coastal Karnataka and Coastal Andhra Pradesh.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Telangana during next 24 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over the rest region outside Tamil Nadu where it may be isolated.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Konkan & Goa, Gujarat Region, Madhya Maharashtra and Marathwada during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Saurashtra & Kutch during next 24 hours and increase thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region outside West Rajasthan where it will be mainly dry.*

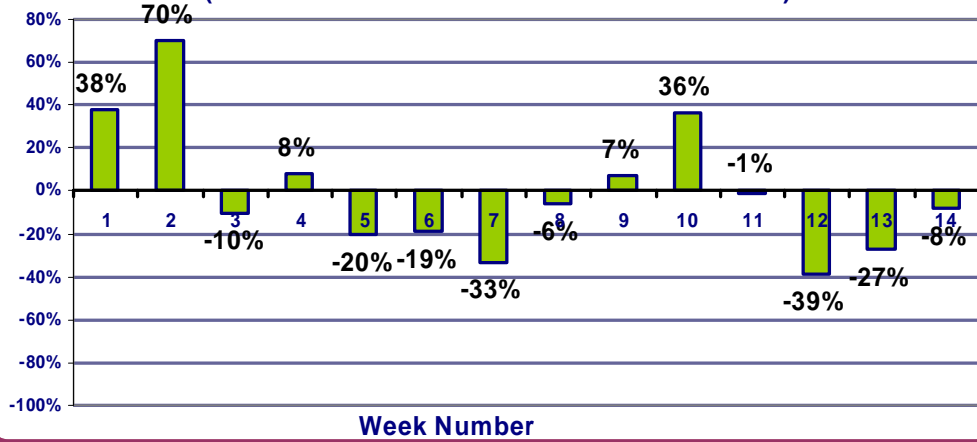
Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over South Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha and South Madhya Pradesh during next 24 hours and mainly dry weather thereafter.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

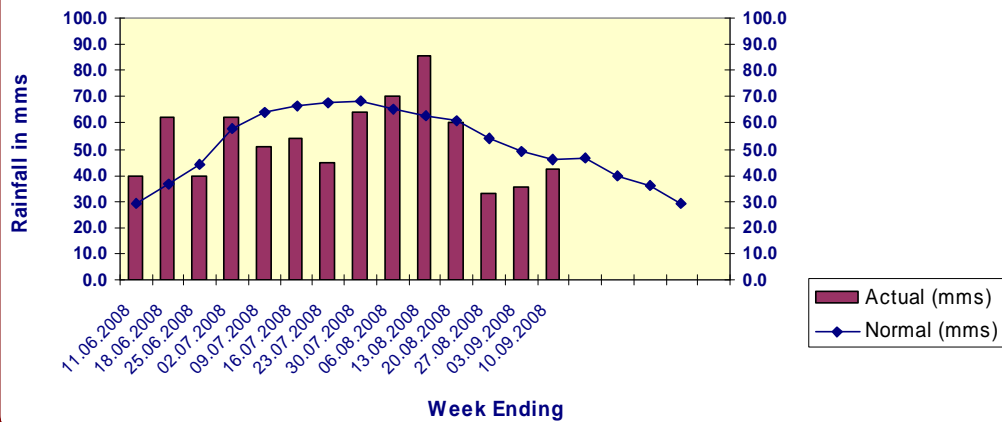


Weekly Percentage Rainfall Deviation from Normal(LPA)- All India

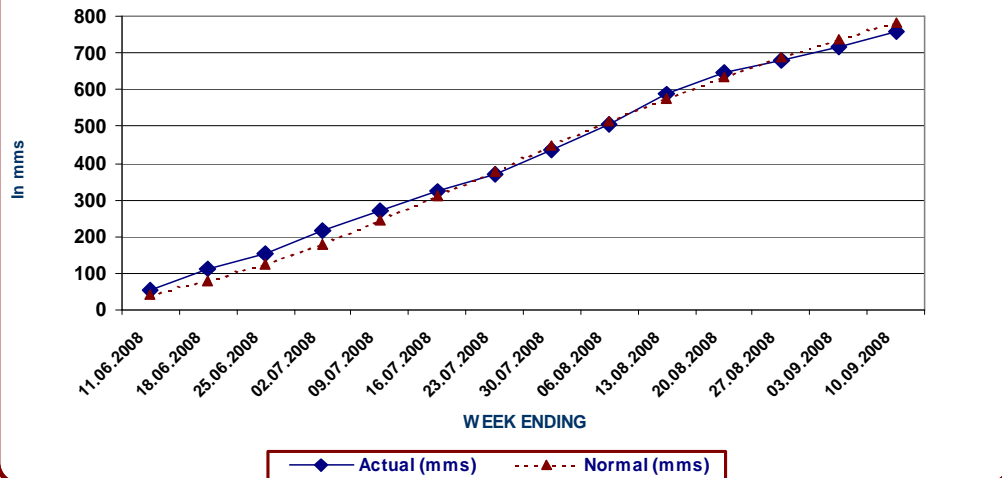
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 10.09.2008)



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 11.09.2008)

- 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 100.246 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 115.00 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 94.88 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

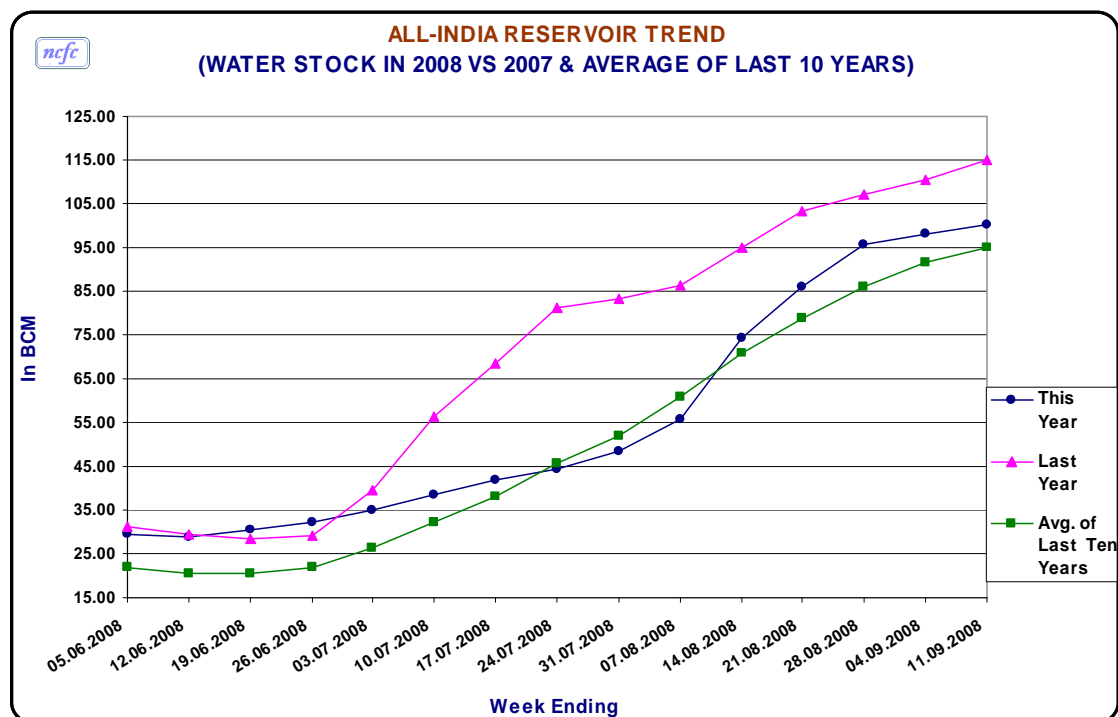
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	66	87	106
Last Week	65	89	107

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 76% on 11/09/2007, 83% on 11/09 /2006, 75% on 11/09/2005 and 62% on 11/09/2004 .

* *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 3 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were 2 reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj) and Yeldari (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and only one reservoir namely Sriramsagar (AP) 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 10th 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 31st August, 08</i>	<i>11539</i>	<i>254</i>	<i>1950</i>	<i>3159</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 31st August, 08</i>	<i>10258</i>	<i>3983</i>	<i>1783</i>	<i>2900</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 31.08.2008</i>	<i>1281</i>	<i>271</i>	<i>167</i>	<i>259</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 12-09-2008								
Crop Name	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. ye		Remarks	
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage		Changes in major States (abs, %)
Rice	391.17	368.78	94.3	350.32	18.5	5.3	AP(+1.4, +7.3), Ass(+0.9, +4.4), Bih(+2.0, +6.3), Chhat(+0.3, +1.0), Har(+0.4, +3.7), Jhar(-0.6, -3.5), Kar(+0.9, +10.9), MP(+1.8, +13.3), Maha(-0.3, -2.3), Ori(+0.7, +1.9), Pun(+0.5, +1.9), TN(+0.5, +18.5), UP(+8.8, +17.1), WB(+1.2, +2.8)	
Jowar	42.08	28.70	68.2	33.81	-5.1	-15.1	AP (-0.3, -16.3), Guj (-0.2, -17.9), Kar (-0.8, -25.4), MP (-0.3, -6.2), Maha(-3.0, -24.1), Raj (+0.4, +8.0), TN (-0.5, -37.4), UP (-0.7, -23.6)	
Bajra	91.81	75.94	82.7	82.69	-6.8	-8.2	AP (-0.6, -93.5) Guj (-2.2, -30.1), Har (+0.5, +7.1), Kar (-2.0, -51.3), MP (-0.3, -14.1), Maha (-3.7, -30.1), Raj (+0.6, +1.3), TN (+0.5, +220.8)	
Maize	63.71	70.19	110.2	74.14	-4.0	-5.3	AP(-0.7, -12.3), J&K(-0.4, -21.3), Kar(-1.8, -16.7), Maha (-0.6, -9.7), Raj(+0.4, +3.8), TN (+0.7, +101.4), UP (-0.5, -5.4)	
Total Coarse Cereals	226.54	195.16	86.1	210.05	-14.9	-7.1	AP(-1.2, -14.3), Chhat(-0.2, -9.1), Guj(-2.5, -19.4), Har(+0.7, +8.9), J&K(-0.5, -22.6), Kar (-4.3, -16.8), MP (-0.9, -5.1), Maha (-7.1, -22.0), Raj (+1.4, +2.4), TN (+0.9, +33.5), UP (-1.1, -5.2)	
Total Cereals	617.71	563.94	91.3	560.37	3.6	0.6		
Tur	34.60	33.92	98.0	37.91	-4.0	-10.5	AP(-0.4, -9.9), Bih(-0.3, -45.9), Guj (-0.3, -8.9), Kar(-0.7, -11.3), Maha(-1.8, -14.9), TN (+0.5, +353.8), UP (-0.6, -13.4)	
Urad	25.31	21.03	83.1	26.56	-5.5	-20.8	AP (-0.2, -23.9), Kar (-0.5, -33.1), MP (-0.6 -10.2), Maha (-3.0, -49.1), Raj (-0.2, -9.3), UP (-1.2, -23.0), WB (+0.3, +83.3)	
Moong	26.16	23.60	90.2	31.27	-7.7	-24.5	AP(-1.0, -31.9), Guj(-0.5, -22.4), Kar(-2.7, -56.8), Maha(-2.9, -41.1), Raj(-0.4, -4.2)	
Others	22.64	23.23	102.6	24.42	-1.2	-4.9		
Total Pulses	108.71	101.78	93.6	120.16	-18.4	-15.3	AP(-3.6, -35.0), Bih (-0.4, -41.1), Chhat (-0.4, -10.5), Guj(-1.0, -14.0), Jhar (-0.6, -33.3), Kar (-4.1, -28.0), MP (-0.8, -7.4), Maha(-8.5, -32.1), Raj (+3.0, +12.7), UP(-1.8, -18.2),	
Total Foodgrains	726.42	665.72	91.6	680.53	-14.8	-2.2		
Groundnut	53.54	50.93	95.1	52.83	-1.9	-3.6	AP (-0.4, -2.8), Guj (+1.2, +7.2), Kar (-1.1, -15.9), MP(-0.3, -14.0), Maha (-0.7, -22.4), Raj (+0.2, +4.8), TN (-0.7, -23.7)	
Soyabean	72.54	95.63	131.8	87.28	8.4	9.6	AP(+0.4, +41.5), Kar(+0.4, +24.4), MP(+2.6, +5.4), Maha(+3.7, +14.1), Raj(+1.0, +13.3)	
Sunflower	7.59	5.51	72.6	7.20	-1.7	-23.5	AP (-0.6, -47.0), Kar (-1.4, -27.0), Maha (+0.2, +29.9)	
Sesamum	14.48	14.25	98.4	15.25	-1.0	-6.6	AP (-0.4, -41.4), Guj (-0.6, -20.8), Kar(-0.4, -41.2), MP(-0.4, -14.8), Maha (-0.3, -35.5), Raj (+0.8, +24.1)	
Niger	3.83	2.50	65.3	2.86	-0.4	-12.6		
Castor	7.01	7.68	109.6	7.63	0.0	0.7		
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	176.50	111.0	173.05	3.45	2.0	AP (-1.4, -7.0), Chhat (+0.2, +6.7), Guj (+1.3, +5.3), Kar (-2.6, -17.2), MP (+1.7 +3.1), Maha (+2.9, +9.2), Raj (+2.1, +13.5), TN (-0.7, -19.5)	
Cotton	83.73	90.51	108.1	92.51	-2.0	-2.2	AP(+2.4, +22.6), Guj(-1.6, -6.3), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Kar (+0.4, +17.5), Maha (-0.7 -2.2), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.5, -41.0)	
Sugarcane	41.47	44.13	106.4	52.95	-8.8	-16.7	AP (-1.2, -47.0), 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	8.24	7.37	89.4	8.26	-0.9	-10.8	Bih (+0.1, +8.1), WB (-1.0, -16.4)	
All- Crops	1018.83	984.23	96.6	1007.30	-23.07	-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 30.08.2008 **decreased** by 0.24 percentage points to 12.10% from the previous week level of 12.34%. The inflation rate was 3.72% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.72% to 10.07%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.21% to 11.07% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group increased by 0.25% to 16.94%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 16.08.2008 stood in the order of 19.31%, 50.75% and 29.82%.

Procurement :

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 08.09.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 08.09.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Punjab	67.81	99.39	67.81
Haryana	33.50	52.31	33.50
Uttar Pradesh	5.46	31.37	5.46
Madhya Pradesh	0.57	24.10	0.57
Rajasthan	3.83	9.35	3.83
All-India	111.28	226.82	111.28

Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 05.09.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 05.09.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	67.28	53.16
Chhattisgarh	28.65	25.77	28.31
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.60	0.96
Orissa	20.02	23.17	19.12
Punjab	78.29	79.01	78.27
Tamil Nadu	10.77	8.71	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.40	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	12.18	6.39
All-India	251.07	271.69	248.82