

**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 25th September, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 19.09.2008.**

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 5 received deficient rainfall and remaining 13 received scanty rainfall during the week. Orissa, Chhattisgarh and Gujarat received exceptionally heavy rains during the week.*
- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole during the period 1st June to 17th September, 08 was 809.9 mm which is 2% below normal. It was excess/normal in 34 met sub-divisions and deficient in 2 met sub-divisions. The met sub-divisions with excess/normal rainfall covered around 93% 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 (4%) and South Peninsula (4%), below LPA in Central India (-5%) and North-east India (-8%).*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient rainfall include NMMT (-24%) and West Madhya Pradesh (-22%).*
- *Heavy downpour in certain areas may cause some damage to the kharif crops nearing harvesting stage. In general, rainfall in September will be beneficial for the ensuing Rabi season.*
- *At All India level and as on 19.09.08, area sown under all kharif crops has been reported to be 995.83 lakh hectares as compared to 1024.48 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 19.09.08 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 06.09.2008 increased by 0.04 percentage points to 12.14% from the previous week's level of 12.10%. The inflation rate was 3.46% during the corresponding period last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 06.09.2008 increased to 6.82% from the previous week's level of 6.18%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has increased to 7.80% from the previous week's level of 4.96%, Cereals to 6.52% from the previous week's level of 5.87% and Pulses to 8.74% from the previous week's level of 8.20%.*

Presentations in the meeting

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

Monsoon Rainfall (June - September) during the week ending on 17th September, 2008

- **Fairly widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls** occurred over Orissa, Gangetic West Bengal and Chhattisgarh towards the end of the week.
- **Widespread/ fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Konkan & Goa throughout the week and over Coastal Karnataka and Kerala during many days of the week.
- **Widespread/fairly widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Vidarbha, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathwada during first half of the week and over Gujarat State during second half of the week.
- **Isolated extremely heavy rainfall occurred over Gujarat State towards the end of the week.**
- **Isolated/scattered rain/thundershower** 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 17th September, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 34 and deficient / scanty in 2 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (17.09.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 17.09.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Deviation (%)	Category
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	14.6	29.8	-51	D	600.6	576.7	4	N
Central India	88.9	45.3	96	E	886.2	931.3	-5	N
South Peninsular India	39.6	33.8	17	N	671.0	643.2	4	N
North-East India	39.4	80.3	-51	D	1223.1	1324.9	-8	N
Country as a whole	48.5	43.8	11	N	809.9	828.5	-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 18th - 24th September, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 24th September, 2008

- *The deep depression which lay centered at 0830 hrs IST of 18th September 2008 over North Chhattisgarh about 50 Km north of Champa is likely to move in a northwesterly direction and weaken gradually. The system is also expected to interact with a mid-latitude westerly trough from tomorrow.*
- *Under this scenario, rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy falls at a few places and extremely heavy falls (>25 cm) at isolated places is likely over Chhattisgarh and East Madhya Pradesh till 19th Sept., 08 morning and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rainfall at many places with isolated heavy to very heavy falls is likely over Vidarbha and interior Orissa till 19th Sept., 08 morning and over West Madhya Pradesh till 20th Sept., 08 morning and decrease thereafter.*
- *Enhanced rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls is likely to commence over West Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh from the 19th September, 2008 night.*
- *Ongoing rainfall activity over Gujarat State is likely to decrease from 19th Sept., 08.*
- *A fresh low pressure area is likely to form over northwest Bay of Bengal around 22nd September, 08 causing increase in rainfall activity over East India.*

Warning:

- *Scattered heavy to very heavy rainfall with extremely heavy falls (> 25 cm) is likely over West Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.*
- *Scattered heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over East Madhya Pradesh & East Uttar Pradesh.*
- *Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi and West Madhya Pradesh. Isolated heavy rainfall is also likely over Bihar and North East Rajasthan.*
- *Isolated heavy to very heavy falls is likely over Gujarat region, Konkan & Goa and Coastal Karnataka.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at most places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Uttar Pradesh during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over the rest region during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over East UP.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places 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 during next 48 hours and increase thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region during next 48 hours and increase thereafter.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Coastal Karnataka, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Interior Karnataka and isolated over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over North Konkan, Gujarat Region, Madhya Maharashtra and East Rajasthan during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over the rest region.*

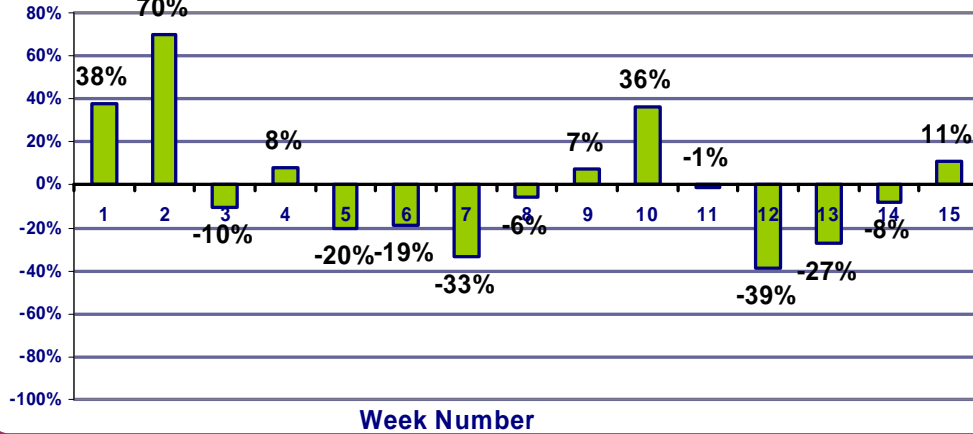
Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Madhya Pradesh during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over the rest region.*

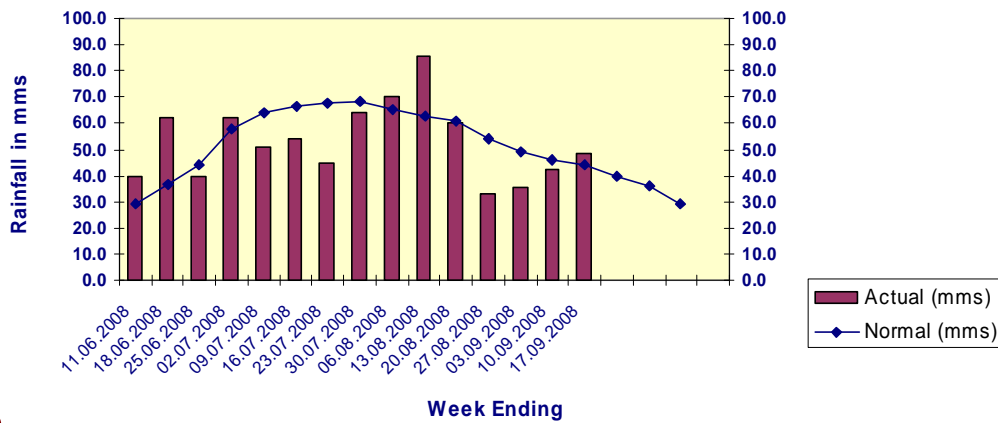


Weekly Percentage Rainfall Deviation from Normal(LPA)- All India

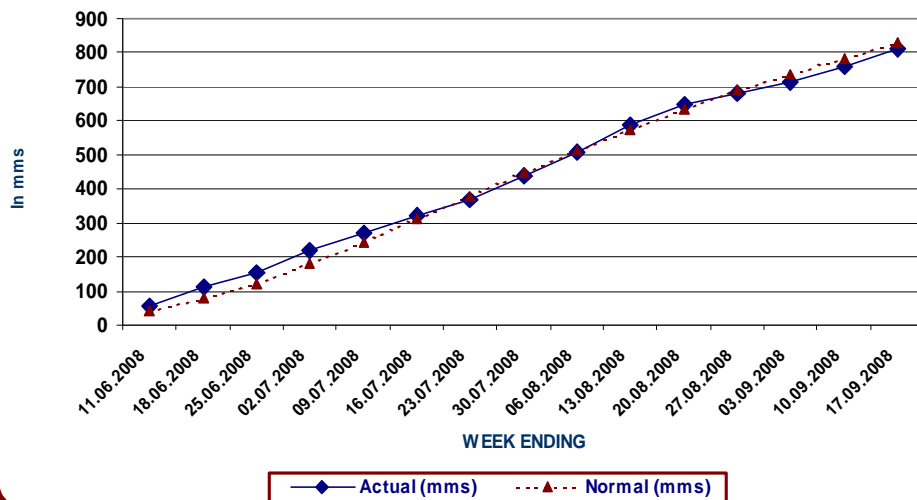
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 17.09.2008)



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 18.09.2008)

- 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 106.26 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 118.70 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 97.77 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

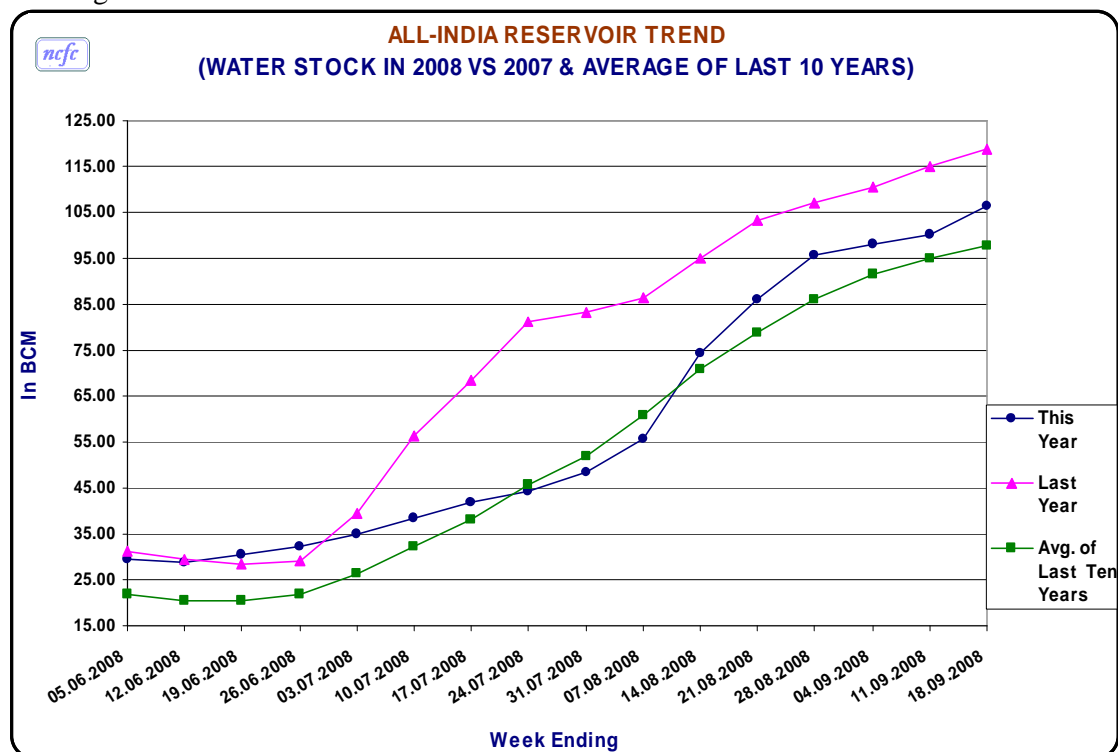
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	70	90	109
Last Week	66	87	106

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 78% on 18/09/2007, 85% on 18/09 /2006, 77% on 18/09/2005 and 62% on 18/09/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 66 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.
- There was one reservoir namely Yeldari (Maha) having storage below 30% 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 18th 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 18th September, 08</i>	<i>12127</i>	<i>4547</i>	<i>2043</i>	<i>3335</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 18th September, 08</i>	<i>10783</i>	<i>4226</i>	<i>1859</i>	<i>3049</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 18.09.2008</i>	<i>1344</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>286</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 19-09-2008								
Crop Name	Normal Area					(In lakh hectares)		Remarks
		Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. ye		Changes in major States (abs. %)	
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage		
Rice	391.17	373.51	95.5	361.81	11.7	3.2	AP(+0.8, +4.1), Ass(+0.5, +2.4), Bih(+1.6, +4.8), Chhat(+0.4, +1.0), Har(+0.4, +3.7), Jhar(+0.5, +3.1), Kar(+0.9, +10.9), MP (+1.6, +11.5), Maha(-0.2, -1.5), Ori(+0.5, +1.3), Pun(+0.5, +1.9), TN(+0.4, +11.6), UP (+2.9, +5.0), WB (+1.2, +2.8)	
Jowar	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	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	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	226.54	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	617.71	571.34	92.5	573.18	-1.8	-0.3		
Tur	34.60	34.29	99.1	38.54	-4.3	-11.0	AP(-0.5, -10.0), Bih(-0.3, -45.9), Guj (-0.3, -8.9), Kar(-0.6, -10.3), Maha(-1.7, -14.6), TN (+0.2, +43.9), UP (-0.7, -14.3)	
Urad	25.31	21.39	84.5	27.53	-6.1	-22.3	AP (-0.3, -27.2), Kar (-0.5, -33.1), MP (-0.6, -10.2), Maha (-3.0, -48.7), Raj (-0.2, -9.3), TN (-0.2, -40.0), UP (-1.2, -23.2)	
Moong	26.16	23.81	91.0	31.69	-7.9	-24.9	AP(-1.0, -32.1), Guj(-0.5, -22.0), Kar(-2.7, -57.0), Maha(-2.9, -40.9), Raj(-0.4, -4.2)	
Others	22.64	23.33	103.1	25.24	-1.9	-7.6		
Total Pulses	108.71	102.82	94.6	123.01	-20.2	-16.4	AP(-3.8, -35.4), Bih (-0.5, -42.2), Chhat (-0.4, -8.4), Guj(-1.0, -14.0), Jhar (-0.6, -33.3), Kar (-4.3, -28.6), MP (-0.8, -7.4), Maha(-8.5, -31.7), Raj (+2.3, +9.5), TN (-0.5, -27.9), UP(-1.9, -18.7),	
Total Foodgrains	726.42	674.16	92.8	696.19	-22.0	-3.2		
Groundnut	53.54	51.67	96.5	53.68	-2.0	-3.7	AP (-1.1, -7.3), Guj (+1.2, +7.2), Kar (-1.0, -13.2), MP(-0.3, -14.0), Maha (-0.7, -22.4), Raj (+0.2, +4.8), TN (-0.3, -9.3)	
Soyabean	72.54	95.63	131.8	87.46	8.2	9.3	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	5.89	77.6	7.33	-1.4	-19.6	AP (-0.5, -41.5), Kar (-1.2, -23.8), Maha (+0.2, +29.9)	
Sesamum	14.48	14.47	99.9	15.36	-0.9	-5.8	AP (-0.4, -43.3), Guj (-0.6, -20.8), Kar(-0.3, -40.0), MP(-0.4, -14.8), Maha (-0.3, -35.5), Raj (+0.8, +24.1)	
Niger	3.83	2.87	74.9	3.04	-0.2	-5.6		
Castor	7.01	8.52	121.5	7.72	0.8	10.4		
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	179.05	112.6	174.58	4.47	2.6	AP (-2.0, -9.4), Chhat (+0.3, +13.3), Guj (+1.8, +7.6), Kar (-2.3, -14.7), MP (+1.7, +3.1), Maha (+2.9, +9.2), Raj (+2.1, +13.5), TN (-0.2, -6.1)	
Cotton	83.73	90.64	108.3	92.50	-1.9	-2.0	AP(+2.4, +22.6), Guj(-1.6, -6.3), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Kar (+0.4, +17.5), Maha (-0.6, -1.8), 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	995.35	97.7	1024.48	-29.13	-2.8		

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 06.09.2008 **increased** by 0.04 percentage points to 12.14% from the previous week level of 12.10%. The inflation rate was 3.46% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 1.20% to 11.27%, (b) Manufactured products group declined by 0.29% to 10.78% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group decreased by 0.28% to 16.66%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 06.09.2008 stood in the order of 21.52%, 49.34% and 29.22%.

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 18.09.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 18.09.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	70.17	53.22
Chhattisgarh	28.65	26.36	28.41
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.60	0.96
Orissa	20.02	23.36	19.15
Punjab	78.29	79.04	78.27
Tamil Nadu	10.77	9.00	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.40	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	13.64	6.40
All-India	251.07	277.15	249.02