

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 Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated, the 06th March, 2009

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 27.02.2009.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Item

- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole, during the period 1st January to 25th February, 2009 was 22.6 mm which is 45% less than the normal rainfall in the above period.*
- *Actual Mean Maximum temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6⁰C over most parts of Himachal Pradesh, some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, West Rajasthan, Saurashtra & Kutch, East Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Manipur, 0 to 2⁰C over most parts of West Bengal & Sikkim, South Madhya Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rayalseema, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, some parts of Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Konkan & Goa, Marathwada, Telangana, Andaman Nicobar Island, 2 to 4⁰C over remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum Temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6⁰C over most parts of West Rajasthan, some parts of Punjab, Gujarat, Madhya Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, 2 to 4⁰C over most parts of Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh, East Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, some parts of Punjab, East Uttar Pradesh, West Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Gangetic West Bengal, North East India, Orissa, Telangana, -2 to 0⁰ over most parts of South Interior Karnataka, some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Rayalseema, North Interior Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Lakshadweep, 0 to 2⁰C over remaining parts of the Country.*
- *In 81 important water reservoirs monitored by CWC in different parts of the country, total live storage has gone down from 57.19 BCM on 19.02.2009 to 54.41 BCM on 26.02.2009.*
- *Area sown reported till 27.02.09 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds during Rabi season was 107%, 122% and 104% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 27.02.09, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 619.22 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 600.49 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007-08.*

- *Area reported was higher by 3.8 lakh ha. under rice, 4.2 lakh ha. under Jowar, 6.7 lakh ha. under Gram, 1.5 lakh ha. under Lentil, 1.9 lakh ha. under Peas and 6.0 lakh ha. under Rapeseed & Mustard.*
- *Seed and fertilizer 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 14.02.2009 decreased to 3.36% from the previous week's level of 3.92%. The inflation rate was 5.66% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 14.02.2009 increased to 12.29% from the previous week's level of 12.09%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has increased to 6.44% from the previous week's level of 5.37% and Pulses to 17.57% from the previous week's level of 16.56% and Cereals to 11.53% from the previous week's level of 11.46% and inflation for Rice has decreased to 15.10% from the previous week's level of 15.28%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items decreased to 2.93% from the previous week's level of 3.77% and for the food items it has decreased to 9.85% from the previous week's level of 10.37%.*

Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Winter Season Rainfall (January - February) during the week ending on 25th February, 2009

- **Fairly widespread to widespread precipitation** occurred over Jammu & Kashmir during many days of the week
- **Isolated rain/thundershower** also occurred over Himachal Pradesh, Punjab and Uttarakhand on a few days.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Arunachal Pradesh and Assam & Meghalaya towards the end of the week.
- Mainly **dry weather** prevailed over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was Excess / normal in 01 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 07 met sub-divisions and no rain in 28 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st January to 25th February, 2009)** was in excess / normal in 01 and deficient / scanty in 28 sub-divisions and no rain in 07 met sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (25.02.09)				Cumulative (01.01.09 to 25.02.09)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia-tion (%)	Cate-gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	7.8	12.8	-39	D	62.6	78.1	-20	D
Central India	0.0	2.7	-100	NR	2.6	18.0	-86	S
South Peninsular India	0.0	3.4	-99	S	2.7	15.5	-83	S
North-East India	4.0	9.9	-60	S	12.5	50.2	-75	S
Country as a whole	3.1	7.1	-57	D	22.6	41.1	-45	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

Minimum Temperature

- Appreciably above normal to markedly above normal minimum temperatures prevailed over many parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh during many days of the week.
- They were above normal to appreciably above normal over northwest India and remaining parts of west and central India during many days of the week.
- The Minimum temperatures were normal to below normal over Jharkhand, east Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during the first half of the week and above normal to appreciably above normal during second half of the week.
- They were above normal to appreciably above normal over remaining parts of east India and Assam & Meghalaya during many days of the week.
- They were above normal to appreciably above normal over Arunachal Pradesh during first half of the week and normal thereafter.
- They were below normal over some parts of south peninsula during first half of the week.
- They were near normal over remaining parts of the country.

***Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 26th February - 04th March, 2009 by
IMD***

Outlook for the Week Ending 04th March, 2009

- *Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall is likely over Northeastern States during first half of the week.*
- *A fresh Western Disturbance as an upper air system is likely to cause scattered precipitation over Western Himalayan region from 3rd March, 09 onwards..*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *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)

- *Rain / thundershowers are likely at a few places over Arunachal Pradesh during next 48 hours and at isolated places thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Assam & Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram and Tripura.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Nicobar Islands.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

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

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 26.02.2009)

- 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 54.41 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 63.76 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 53.79 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

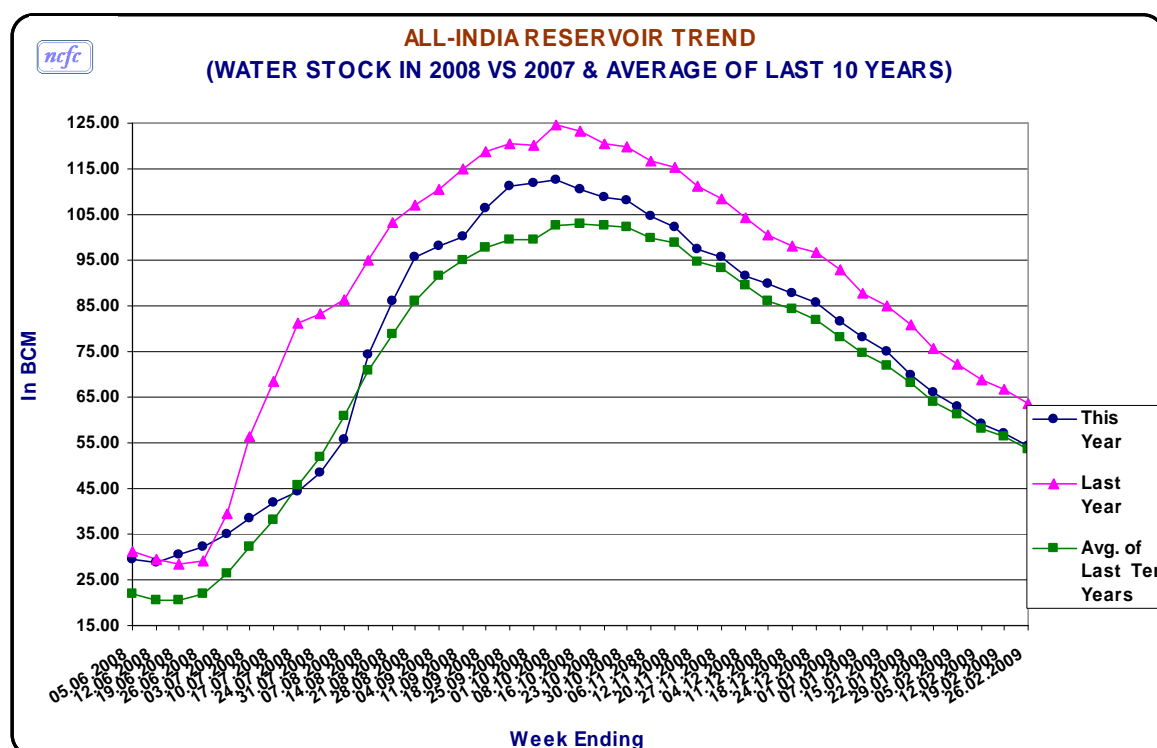
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	36	85	101
Last Week	38	86	102

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 42% on 26/02/2008, 45% on 26/02/2007, 47% on 25/02/2006 and 33% on 25/02/2005 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 47 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 18 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 8 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were Seven reservoirs namely Gumti (Tripura), Dantiwada (Guj), Yeldari (Maha), Harangi (Kar), Rana Prata Sagar (Raj), Vanivilas Sagar (Kar) and Isapur (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and 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 October to 26th February, 2009

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>	<i>Complex</i>
<i>Requirement upto 01st October to 26th February, 2009</i>	<i>13302</i>	<i>4921</i>	<i>1838</i>	<i>4002</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 26th February, 2009</i>	<i>12090</i>	<i>4008</i>	<i>1796</i>	<i>3204</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 26th February, 2009</i>	<i>10991</i>	<i>3918</i>	<i>1506</i>	<i>2994</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 26.02.2009</i>	<i>1100</i>	<i>89</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>210</i>
<i>Requirement for March, 2009</i>	<i>1120</i>	<i>286</i>	<i>228</i>	<i>332</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 - Rabi (2008-09) as on 27-02-2009								
Crop Name	IV Adv. Est.	Normal Area	Area sown reported (In lakh hectares)			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
			This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
Wheat	281.53	265.30	277.98	104.8	280.73	-2.8	-1.0	Bih (-0.2, -0.6), Guj (-1.9, -13.4), Har (+0.2,+0.6), Kar (+0.2, +7.8), MP (-1.0, -2.6), Maha(-2.4, -19.2), Raj (-3.4, -13.1), UP (+5.0,+5.6), WB (+0.5, +13.6)
Rice	43.88	37.31	35.62	95.5	31.83	3.8	11.9	AP (+1.7, +12.9), Ass (+1.1, +49.1), Kar (-0.3, -8.9), Ori (+0.4, +27.2), TN (+0.4, +23.1), WB (+0.5, +5.9)
Jowar	43.62	49.11	48.76	99.3	44.61	4.2	9.3	AP (-0.6, -24.8), Kar (+0.4, +3.1), Maha (+4.1, +14.6), TN (+0.2, +11.6)
Maize	11.28	8.15	11.37	139.6	10.38	1.0	9.5	AP (+0.5, +17.9), Bih (-0.2, -7.0), Kar (+0.4, +54.5), TN (+0.4, +34.6)
Barley	6.14	6.50	7.80	119.9	6.93	0.9	12.6	MP (+0.3, +46.7), Raj (+0.7, +22.4), UP (-0.1, -4.7)
Total Coarse Cereals	61.04	63.60	68.27	107.3	62.30	6.0	9.6	Bih (-0.3, -7.3), Kar (+0.7, +5.7), MP (+0.3, +44.4), Maha (+4.1, +14.1), Raj (+0.7, +22.4), TN (+0.6, +21.4), UP (-0.2, -7.5)
Total Cereals	386.45	366.21	381.87	104.3	374.86	7.0	1.9	
Gram	75.80	68.50	85.80	125.3	79.08	6.7	8.5	AP (-0.2, -2.9), Guj (-0.2, -8.5), Har (+0.2, +21.5), Kar (+1.4, +18.6), MP (+3.2, +13.2), Maha(-1.7, -12.5), Raj (+1.6, +12.4), UP (+2.6, +43.1)
Lentil	-	14.45	15.21	105.2	13.66	1.5	11.3	Bih (-0.1, -4.8), MP (+0.5, +10.8), UP (+1.1, +20.4)
Peas	-	7.41	8.44	113.9	6.50	1.9	29.8	MP (+0.7, +36.5), UP (+1.3, +39.7)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	5.09	164.3	5.70	-0.6	-10.7	AP (-0.1, -24.5), Chhat(-0.1, -25.1), Ori (-0.2, -8.5), TN (-0.2, -18.9)
Urad	8.09	7.30	9.33	127.9	8.94	0.4	4.4	AP (-1.1, -30.0), Ori (-0.1, -2.8), TN (+1.4, +122.9), WB (+0.2+33.3)
Moong	7.21	6.22	6.71	107.9	6.95	-0.2	-3.4	AP (-0.2, -17.6), Ori (-0.2, -5.0), TN (+0.2, +17.0)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.31	67.9	5.14	-0.8	-16.1	Chhat (-0.9, -18.3)
Others	31.07*	2.99	6.80	227.6	7.23	-0.4	-5.9	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	141.70	122.2	133.19	8.5	6.4	AP (-1.4, -11.9), Bih (-0.4, -8.8), Chhat (-1.2, -13.1), Har (+0.3, +25.0), Kar (+1.3, +14.4), MP (+4.4, +13.8), Maha(-2.1, -14.0), Ori (-0.6, -5.4), Raj (+1.8, +13.6), TN (+1.4, +33.6), UP (+5.0, +33.9).
Total Foodgrains	508.61	482.21	523.57	108.6	508.05	15.5	3.1	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	65.94	104.3	59.89	6.0	10.1	Bih (-0.2, -12.9), Guj (-0.5, -13.5), Har (+0.8, +13.6), MP (+2.7, +49.2), Raj (+2.9, +11.5), UP (+0.9, +11.5), WB (-0.3, -5.6)
Groundnut	11.12	8.28	8.45	102.1	10.42	-2.0	-18.9	AP (+0.1, +3.2), Guj (-1.1, -100.0), Maha(-0.5, -100.0), TN (-0.8, -29.7)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.82	76.4	3.17	-0.4	-11.0	Guj (+0.1, +100.0), MP (-0.1, -100.0), Maha (-0.4, -16.1)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	11.48	88.1	10.61	0.9	8.2	AP (+0.3, +7.7), Har (-0.2, -100.0), Kar (+1.1, +21.2), MP (-0.1, -100.0)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	1.23	51.0	1.52	-0.3	-19.1	TN (-0.4, -44.9)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	4.51	100.3	4.88	-0.4	-7.6	Bih (-0.1, -16.3), Chhat (-0.2, -17.9), MP (+0.3, +23.6), Maha(-0.4, -48.6)
Others	0.52	0.54	1.22	225.9	1.95	-0.7	-37.4	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	95.65	103.7	92.44	3.2	3.5	AP (+0.4, +5.3), Bih (-0.3, -14.1), Chhat(-0.3, -10.8), Guj (-1.4, -31.6), Har (+0.6, +9.6), Kar (+1.3, +17.4), MP (+2.2, +29.8), Maha (-1.3, -25.6), Raj (+2.9, +11.5), TN (-1.2, -33.1), UP (+1.0, +11)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	619.22	107.8	600.49	18.7	3.1	
Source: Crops & TMOP Divisions, DAC								
*:- Includes Lentil, Peas, Kulthi, Lathyrus, Cowpea, Avare and Moth etc. during 2007-08 Adv. Est. (E&S).								

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 14.02.2009 decreased to 3.36% from the previous week's level of 3.92%. The inflation rate was 5.66% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.66% to 7.31% followed by (b) Manufactured products group by 0.27% to 4.67% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group by 0.95% to (-)3.98%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 07.02.2009 stood in the order of 50.30%, 76.67% and (-)25.76%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 27.02.2009 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 27.02.2009	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	39.45	30.05
Chhattisgarh	27.43	24.26	25.05
Haryana	15.72	14.04	15.58
Kerala	1.68	0.80	0.58
Maharashtra	1.60	1.46	1.19
Orissa	23.49	14.89	13.70
Punjab	79.07	83.49	76.40
Tamil Nadu	9.68	7.37	5.22
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	33.80	23.42
Uttaranchal	1.47	2.67	1.38
West Bengal	15.08	6.92	2.80
All-India	285.02	236.67	198.94