

**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 30th April, 2009

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD ON
24.04.2009.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Item

- *IMD's long range forecast for the 2009 South-west Monsoon season (June to September) is that the rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be Near Normal.*
- *Quantitatively, monsoon season rainfall is likely to be 96% of the long period average with a model error of $\pm 5\%$. The long period average rainfall over the country as a whole for the period 1941-1990 is 89 cm.*
- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole, during the period 1st March to 22nd April, 2009 was 35.0 mm.*
- *In 81 important water reservoirs monitored by CWC in different parts of the country, total live storage has gone down from 32.65 BCM on 16.04.2009 to 30.63 BCM on 23.04.2009.*
- *Area sown reported till 24.04.09 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds during Rabi season was 109%, 126% and 109% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 24.04.09, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 641.07 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 622.71 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007-08.*
- *Area reported was higher by 2.9 lakh ha. under rice, 4.2 lakh ha. under Jowar, 1.6 lakh ha. under Maize, 7.2 lakh ha. under Gram, 1.7 lakh ha. under Lentil, 1.9 lakh ha. under Peas and 6.6 lakh ha. under Rapeseed & Mustard.*
- *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 11.04.2009 increased to 0.26% from the previous week's level of 0.18%. The inflation rate was 7.95% during the corresponding period of last year.*

- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 11.04.2009 increased to 9.66% from the previous week's level of 9.44%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Rice has increased to 12.58% from the previous week's level of 12.44% and Cereals to 9.81% from the previous week's level of 9.45%. The inflation rate for Wheat has decreased to 4.61% from the previous week's level of 5.40% and Pulses to 8.58% from the previous week's level of 9.12%*
- *The inflation for non-food items increased to 1.27% from the previous week's level of 1.02% and for the food items has decreased to 7.07% from the previous week's level of 7.30%.*
- *All-India progressive procurement of Wheat as on 24.4.2009 was 165.41 lakh tonnes which is much higher than the procurement of 95.39 lakh tonnes in the corresponding date of last year.*
- *All-India progressive procurement of Rice as on 24.4.2009 was 272.14 lakh tonnes which is much higher than the procurement of 226.34 lakh tonnes in the corresponding date of last year.*

Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Forecast for the 2009 South-west monsoon rainfall

IMD's long range forecast for the 2009 South-west Monsoon season (June to September) is that the rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be Near Normal.

Quantitatively, monsoon season rainfall is likely to be 96% of the long period average with a model error of $\pm 5\%$. The long period average rainfall over the country as a whole for the period 1941-1990 is 89 cm.

Pre-Monsoon Season Rainfall (March - May) during the week ending on 22nd April, 2009

- **Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during beginning of the week. It experienced **isolated to scattered rain/thundershower** thereafter.
- **Isolated to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers** occurred over Kerala during many days and **isolated to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during second half of the week. **Isolated rain/thundershowers also** occurred over Rayalseema and interior Karnataka for one or two days during second half of the week.
- The **rainfall activity** increased over Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura and Assam & Meghalaya from 17th April onwards with occurrence of fairly widespread/ widespread rain/thundershower.
- **Widespread/fairly widespread rainfall** also occurred over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim on 17th & 18th and activity was isolated on remaining days. Isolated to scattered rain/thundershowers occurred over Arunachal Pradesh during many days of the week.
- **Isolated rain/thundershowers** occurred over Gangetic West Bengal and Bihar for one day and over Orissa for many days during first half of the week.
- **Isolated precipitation** occurred over western Himalayan region and adjoining northern plains including Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan during first two days of the week.
- **Another fresh spell** of precipitation commenced over western Himalayan region from 20th April, 09 and continued till end of the week.
- Mainly **dry weather** prevailed over remaining parts of the country.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was Excess / normal in 07 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 14 met sub-divisions and no rain in 15 met sub-divisions.

- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st March to 22nd April, 2009)** was in excess / normal in 09 and deficient / scanty in 26 sub-divisions and no rain in 01 met sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (22.04.09)				Cumulative (01.03.09 to 22.04.09)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Deviation (%)	Category
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	3.3	7.6	-57	D	46.5	75.0	-38	D
Central India	0.1	3.1	-95	S	3.2	17.7	-82	S
South Peninsular India	5.3	8.8	-40	D	35.0	36.0	-3	N
North-East India	32.3	30.7	5	N	79.6	143.7	-45	D
Country as a whole	7.2	10.0	-28	D	35.0	59.0	-41	D

E: Excess, N: Normal, D: Deficient, S: Scanty, NR: No Rain.

Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

TEMPERATURE

Maximum Temperature

- A thundersquall with maximum wind speed reaching 60 kmph occurred over Bangalore on 22nd afternoon during 1433 IST to 1435 hours IST.
- The heat wave conditions prevailed over Orissa, Rajasthan West Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Saurashtra & Kutch, Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh on 19th and 20th April, 09. It also prevailed over Saurashtra & Kutch on 17th & 18th, over Orissa & Jharkhand on 22nd April, 09.
- The maximum temperatures were above normal to markedly above normal over many parts of northwest, west, central and east India during many days of the week. They were also above normal to appreciably above normal over northern peninsula during many days of the week.
- They were below normal to appreciably below normal over Northeastern States during many days of the week.
- They were near normal over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.

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 23rd – 29th April, 2009 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 29th April, 2009

- *A western disturbance as an upper air system is likely to affect western Himalayan region during 26th to 28th April, 2009.*
- *Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers activity with isolated thundersquall is likely over Assam & Meghalaya and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura on 23rd April, 09. Activity is likely to decrease thereafter.*

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)

- *Isolated Rain/thundershowers is likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Orissa and Coastal areas of Gangetic West Bengal.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over the region during next 24 hours and isolated thereafter.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Kerala, South Karnataka and Lakshadweep during next 24 hours and isolated thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain / thundershowers are likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, North Karnataka, South Tamil Nadu and Coastal Andhra Pradesh.*
- *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 23.04.2009)

- 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 30.63 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 43.71 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 33.28 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

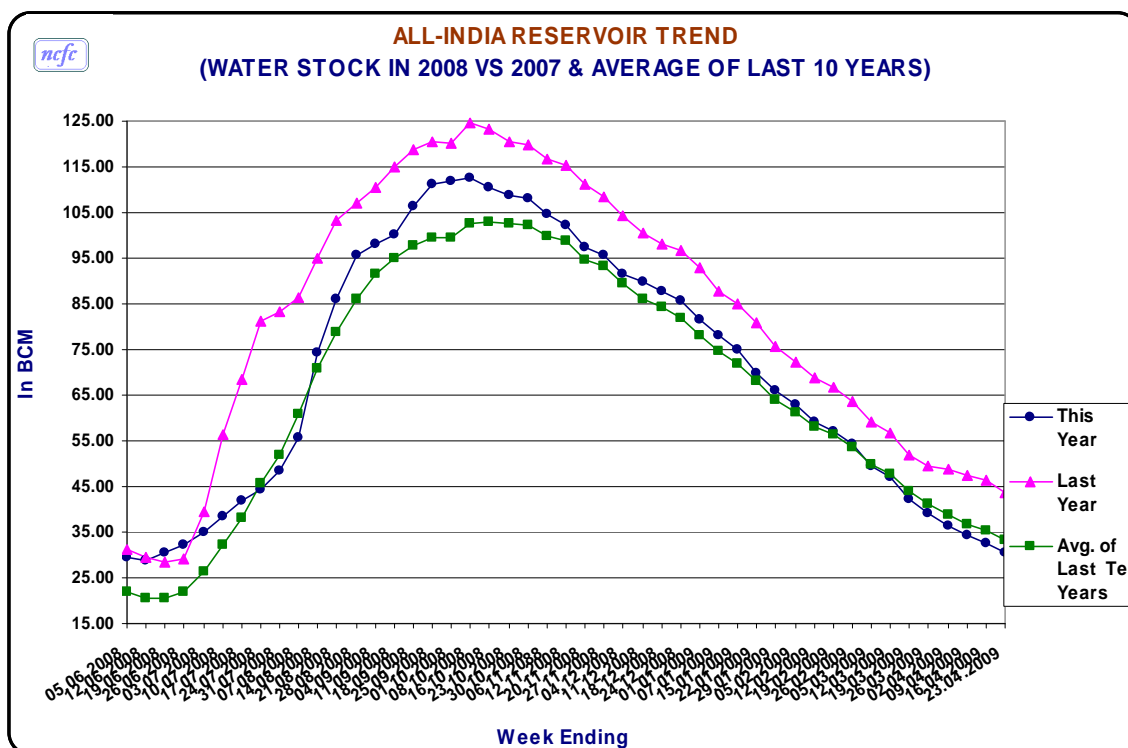
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	20	70	92
Last Week	22	71	92

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 29% on 23/04/2008, 29% on 23/04/2007, 29% on 21/04/2006 and 21% on 21/04/2005 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 40 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 23 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 7 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were nine reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj), Yeldari (Maha), Salanadi (Ori), Kangsabati (WB), Vanivilas Sagar & Tungabhadra (Kar), Vaigai & Sholapur (TN) and Isapur (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and two reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP) and Gumti (Trp) 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 23rd April, 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 April to 23rd April, 2009</i>	<i>1095</i>	<i>378</i>	<i>226</i>	<i>359</i>
<i>Availability during 1st April to 23rd April, 2009</i>	<i>1092</i>	<i>378</i>	<i>360</i>	<i>301</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 23rd April, 2009</i>	<i>240</i>	<i>223</i>	<i>99</i>	<i>95</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 23.04.2009</i>	<i>852</i>	<i>155</i>	<i>261</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Requirement for May, 2009</i>	<i>1817</i>	<i>724</i>	<i>255</i>	<i>606</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 24-04-2009								
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	47.34	126.9	44.42	2.9	6.6	AP (+1.7, +11.9), Ass (+0.8, +22.5), Bih (+0.2, +16.7), Kar (-0.3, -9.4), TN (+0.6, +33.3)
Jowar	43.62	49.11	48.82	99.4	44.64	4.2	9.4	AP (-0.5, -23.1), Kar (+0.4, +3.1), Maha (+4.1, +14.6), TN (+0.2, +11.6)
Maize	11.28	8.15	12.22	150.0	10.62	1.6	15.1	AP (+0.96, +33.1), Bih (-0.2, -7.0), Kar (+0.4, +54.5), TN (+0.4, +34.6)
Barley	6.14	6.50	7.85	120.7	6.53	1.3	20.2	MP (+0.3, +46.7), Raj (+1.1, +42.6), UP (-0.1, -4.7)
Total Coarse Cereals	61.04	63.60	69.24	108.9	62.28	7.0	11.2	AP (+0.4, +8.3), Bih (-0.2, -6.1), Kar (+0.7, +5.7), MP (+0.3, +44.4), Maha (+4.1, +14.1), Raj (+1.1, +42.6), TN (+0.6, +21.4), UP (-0.2, -7.5)
Total Cereals	386.45	366.21	394.56	107.7	387.43	7.1	1.8	
Gram	75.80	68.50	86.82	126.7	79.64	7.2	9.0	AP (+0.2, +2.7), 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	15.65	108.3	13.98	1.7	11.9	Chhat (-0.1, -17.6), MP (+0.5, +10.8), UP (+1.1, +20.4)
Peas	-	7.41	8.69	117.3	6.74	1.9	28.9	MP (+0.7, +36.5), UP (+1.3, +39.7)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	5.11	164.9	5.70	-0.6	-10.3	AP (-0.1, -24.5), Chhat(-0.1, -25.3), Ori (-0.2, -7.7), TN (-0.2, -18.9)
Urad	8.09	7.30	10.27	140.8	10.52	-0.2	-2.3	AP (-1.3, -30.7), Ori (-0.2, -5.9), TN (+1.1, +52.5), WB (+0.2 +33.3)
Moong	7.21	6.22	7.48	120.3	8.51	-1.0	-12.1	AP (-0.8, -50.7), Ori (-0.3, -4.9)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.31	67.9	5.16	-0.8	-16.5	Chhat (-0.9, -18.7)
Others	31.07*	2.99	7.36	246.3	7.49	-0.1	-1.7	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	145.71	125.6	137.74	8.0	5.8	AP (-1.8, -14.3), Bih (-0.2, -4.0), Chhat (-1.2, -12.5), Har (+0.3, +25.0), Kar (+1.3, +13.9), MP (+4.4, +13.8), Maha(-2.1, -14.0), Ori (-0.7, -5.5), Raj (+1.8, +13.6), TN (+1.0, +18.3), UP (+5.0, +33.9), WB (+0.4, +19.0)
Total Foodgrains	508.61	482.21	540.27	112.0	525.17	15.1	2.9	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	66.24	104.7	59.63	6.6	11.1	Guj (-0.5, -13.5), Har (+1.0, +20.0), MP (+2.7, +49.2), Raj (+2.9, +11.5), UP (+0.9, +11.1), WB (-0.3, -5.6)
Groundnut	11.12	8.28	10.93	132.0	13.04	-2.1	-16.2	Guj (-0.5, -31.2), Maha(-0.3, -28.7), TN (-1.2, -37.8), WB (-0.3, -41.7)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.80	75.9	3.17	-0.4	-11.7	Guj (+0.1, +100.0), MP (-0.1, -100.0), Maha (-0.4, -16.1)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	12.60	96.7	11.38	1.2	10.7	AP (+0.3, +7.6), Har (-0.2, -100.0), Kar (+1.0, +20.3), Maha(+0.4, +27.3), TN (-0.2, -47.4)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	1.77	73.4	3.67	-1.9	-51.8	AP (-0.1, -16.1), Ori (-0.1, -8.6), WB (-1.7, -82.5)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	4.56	101.4	4.90	-0.3	-6.9	Chhat (-0.2, -18.6), MP (+0.3, +23.6), Maha(-0.4, -48.6), UP (+0.1, +29.0)
Others	0.52	0.54	1.91	353.7	1.75	0.2	9.1	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	100.80	109.3	97.54	3.3	3.3	Chhat (-0.4, -11.4), Guj (-0.6, -10.5), Har (+0.8, +14.7), Kar (+1.4, +17.4), MP (+2.2, +29.8), Maha (-0.6, -10.4), Raj (+2.9, +11.5), TN (-1.4, -34.3), UP (+1.1, +13.2), WB (-2.1, -27.9)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	641.07	111.6	622.71	18.4	2.9	

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 11.04.2009 **increased** to 0.26% from the previous week's level of 0.18%. The inflation rate was 7.95% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.11% to 4.36% followed by (b) Manufactured products group increased by 0.15% to 0.90% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group remained unchanged at the previous week's level of (-) 5.87%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 11.04.2009 stood in the order of 381.77%, 191.25% and (-) 476.58% respectively.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 24.04.2009 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 24.04.2009	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	52.68	40.25
Chhattisgarh	27.43	25.48	27.46
Haryana	15.72	14.05	15.69
Kerala	1.68	2.07	1.31
Maharashtra	1.60	1.84	1.23
Orissa	23.49	19.28	16.66
Punjab	79.07	84.70	78.13
Tamil Nadu	9.68	10.53	7.04
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	35.69	26.41
Uttaranchal	1.47	3.24	1.45
West Bengal	15.08	11.05	5.21
All-India	285.02	272.14	226.34

Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 24.04.2009 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2008-09 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 24.04.2008	
		In Marketing season 2009-2010	In Marketing season 2008-2009
Punjab	99.41	86.68	48.77
Haryana	52.37	57.34	32.73
Uttar Pradesh	31.37	4.79	3.93
Madhya Pradesh	24.10	9.88	6.15
Rajasthan	9.35	5.97	2.96
All-India	226.89	165.41	95.39