

**F.NO. 3-1/2007-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 01st May, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 25.04.2008.**

Presentations in the meeting

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

Forecast for the 2008 South-West Monsoon Rainfall

- **IMD's long range forecast for the 2008 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 99% 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.**
- **IMD will update the above forecast in June 2008 as a part of second stage forecasts. Separate forecasts for the July rainfall over the country as a whole and seasonal (June – September) rainfall over the four geographical regions of India will also be issued.**

Pre-Monsoon Rainfall (March - May) during the week ending on 23rd April, 2008

- **Rain/thundershower** occurred over a few places over Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh on 17th April, 08.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershower** occurred over Arunachal Pradesh and Assam & Meghalaya during first half of the week.
- **Isolated/scattered rain/thundershower** occurred over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during many days of the week.
- **Isolated rain/thundershower** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Kerala during many days and over Karnataka during a few days of the week.

Warning:

Isolated heavy rainfall likely over Assam & Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

- **Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, rainfall during the week was excess / normal in 2 sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 21 sub-divisions and no rain in 13 met sub-divisions.**

- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st March to 23rd April, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 24 and deficient / scanty in 12 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (16.04.08)				Cumulative (01.03.08 to 16.04.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	2.2	7.0	-69	S	33.9	73.4	-54	D
Central India	0.2	3.1	-93	S	27.4	18.1	52	E
South Peninsular India	2.7	9.3	-71	S	145.1	37.5	287	E
North-East India	8.3	29.9	-72	S	99.3	147.3	-33	D
Country as a whole	2.6	9.8	-73	S	64.0	59.5	8	N

E: Excess, N: Normal, D: Deficient, S: Scanty, NR: No Rain.
Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

Temperature

Maximum

- **Heat wave conditions** prevailed over some parts of north Orissa on 18th April, 08 and over some parts of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh on 22nd April, 08.
- The maximum temperatures were **above normal** over most parts of Northwest, East & Northeast India and Rajasthan during second half of the week.
- They were **above normal** over Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu & Puducherry 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 26th April - 02nd May, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 30th April, 2008

- *A low pressure area is likely to develop over southeast Bay of Bengal around 26th April, 08. Subsequently, it is likely to concentrate into a depression and move initially in a Northwesterly direction.*
- *Scattered rain/thundershower activity is likely over Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during second half of the week.*
- *Heat wave conditions are likely over some parts of plains of Northwest & Central India.*
- *Scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershower activity is likely over Assam & Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

- ***North-West India (J&K, HP, Uttaranchal, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, West UP)***
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Sub Himalyan West Bengal & Sikkim. Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershower likely **at many places** over Assam & Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh and isolated over NMM&T.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Kerala and South Tamil Nadu during next 48 hrs and at a few places thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Karnataka. Mainly dry weather is likely over rest of the region.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over South Konkan & Goa. 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 24.04.2008)

- 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 42.00 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 45.28 BCM and more than the average of last 10 year's storage of 31.77 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

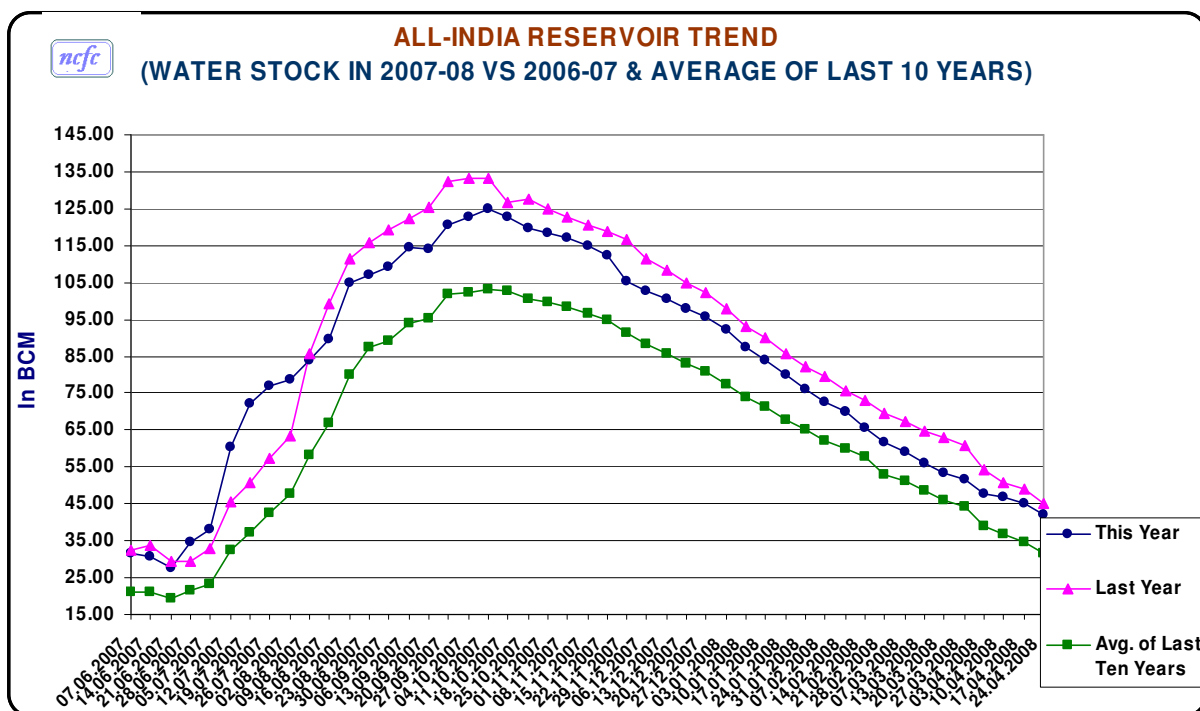
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	28	93	132
Last Week	30	92	130

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 30% on 24/04/2007, 26% on 24/04/2006, 21% on 24/04/2005 and 18% on 24/04/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 65 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 5 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 6 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were two reservoirs namely Sholayar (TN) and Kabini (Karnataka) having storage below 30% of normal storage and three reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP), Konar (Jhar) and Yeldari (Maha) 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 to 15th April, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>
<i>Requirement for May, 2008</i>	<i>1809</i>	<i>758</i>	<i>247</i>
<i>Availability during 1st to 15th April, 08</i>	<i>1888</i>	<i>318</i>	<i>235</i>
<i>Sales during 1st to 15th April, 08</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>94</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 15.04.2008</i>	<i>1770</i>	<i>223</i>	<i>141</i>
<i>Requirement for April, 2008</i>	<i>906</i>	<i>376</i>	<i>151</i>

Source: Fertilizer Division (DAC) / Deptt. of Fertilizer

Pest & Diseases:

- The incidence of pest & diseases generally remained below Economic Threshold Level (ETL) for most of the crops.
- No shortage of Chemical / Bio-pesticides reported from any State / UT.

Table: 4

All India Crop Situation - Rabi (2007-08)								
							(In lakh hectares)	
Crop Name	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks	
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage		Changes in major States (abs. %)
Wheat	262.00	280.00	106.9	279.95	0.05	0.02	Bih (+0.8,+3.8), Guj (+1.9, +16.1), Har (+1.0, +4.1), Kar (-0.4, -14.5), MP (-3.1, -7.7), Pun (+0.1,+0.4), Raj (+0.2, +0.9), UP (-0.8, -0.9), Uttaran (+0.1, +1.5), WB (+0.1, +2.6)	
Rice	37.32	42.22	113.1	42.12	0.10	0.24	AP (-0.1, -1.0), Jhar (-0.1, -50.0), Kar (-0.1, -2.7), Maha (-0.1, -18.4), Ori (-0.3, -8.9), UP (-0.1, -77.8), WB (+1.0, +7.1)	
Jowar	50.29	44.67	88.8	47.34	-2.67	-5.64	AP(-0.3, -9.6), Kar (+0.4, +3.2), Maha (-3.7, -11.4), TN (+1.0, +121.8)	
Maize	7.45	10.70	143.6	9.34	1.36	14.56	AP (+0.6, +32.1), Bih (-0.2, -4.5), Guj (+0.8, +100.0), Kar (-0.1, -10.5), TN (+0.4, +56.7)	
Barley	6.53	6.09	93.3	6.46	-0.37	-5.73	MP (-0.1, -11.9), UP (-0.4, -19.7), Raj (+0.1, +2.2)	
Total Coarse Cereals	64.27	61.46	95.6	63.15	-1.69	-2.68	AP (+0.4, +8.0), Bih (-0.2, -4.5), Guj (+0.7, +135.8), Kar (+0.3, +2.1), Maha (-3.9, -11.7), TN (+1.3, +91.7), UP (-0.3, -12.6)	
Total Cereals	363.59	383.68	105.5	385.22	-1.54	-0.40		
Gram	66.02	74.43	112.7	74.94	-0.51	-0.68	AP (+0.4, +5.8), Bih (+0.1, +24.6), Guj (+0.2, +7.7), Chhat (+0.2, +10.3), MP (-1.6, -6.3), Maha(+0.2, +1.2), Raj (+1.6, +15.5),UP (-1.7, -25.2)	
Urad	7.53	7.71	102.5	9.78	-2.07	-21.17	AP (-0.2, -3.9), Guj (-0.3, -100.0), TN (-1.6, -41.0)	
Moong	6.04	6.87	113.7	7.01	-0.14	-2.00	Guj (+0.2, +1.00.0), TN(-0.3, -18.6)	
Total Pulses	113.53	119.62	105.4	125.16	-5.54	-4.43	Bih (+0.3, +6.2), Chhat (-3.8, -56.0), Kar (-0.9, -9.2), MP (-2.8, -8.5), Maha(+0.3, +2.3), Ori (+2.6, +91.5), Raj (+1.2, +10.9), TN (+0.9, +21.7), UP (-3.7, -20.5), WB (+0.4, +21.6)	
Total Foodgrains	477.12	503.30	105.5	510.38	-7.08	-1.39		
Rapeseed & Mustard	59.28	58.78	99.2	67.90	-9.12	-13.43	Guj (-0.2, -5.5), Chhat (-0.1, -11.9), Har (-1.0, -16.6), MP (-1.0, -15.0), Maha(-0.1, -35.7), Raj (-6.0, -18.8), UP (-0.4, -4.5), WB (-0.2, -5.2)	
Groundnut	8.16	10.65	130.5	8.34	2.31	27.70	AP (+0.4, +16.7), Guj (+0.4, +37.6), Maha (-0.3, -27.1), TN (+1.7, +123.9)	
Safflower	3.74	3.18	85.0	3.76	-0.58	-15.43	Guj (+0.2, +100.0), Kar (-0.2, -19.8), Maha (-0.6, -22.6),	
Sunflower	12.16	10.86	89.3	13.04	-2.18	-16.72	AP (-0.3, -8.5), Har (+0.1, +60.0), Kar (-1.2, -19.5), Maha (-0.9, -37.5), TN (+0.2, +137.5)	
Linseed	4.70	4.02	85.6	4.38	-0.36	-8.22	Chhat 9-0.1, -11.8), MP(-0.1, -9.2), UP (-0.2, -42.3)	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	88.04	87.48	99.4	97.42	-9.94	-10.20	Bih (-0.2, -11.0), Guj (+0.4, +8.6), Har (-0.9, -14.7), Kar (-1.4, -15.8), MP (-1.2, -14.1), Maha (-1.8, -25.8), Raj (-6.0, -18.8), TN (+1.9, +124.5), UP (-0.6, -7.2), (WB (-0.1, -2.4)	
All- Crops	565.15	590.78	104.5	607.80	-17.02	-2.80		

Source: Ministry of Agriculture & Cooperation, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, 3rd Advance Estimates as on 22.04.2008.

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 12.04.2008 increased by 19 percentage points to 7.33% from the previous week level of 7.14%. The inflation rate was 6.34% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.46% to 8.17%, (b) Manufactured products group by 0.12% to 7.16% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group by 0.04% to 6.81%. The share of these three groups in inflation during this weekend stood in the order of 25.44%, 54.29% and 20.01%.

Table – 5: Retail prices of Essential Agricultural Commodities at Delhi

(Rs. Per Kg.)						
Items	Current price 24.04.08	1 week ago 17.04.08	Fortnight ago 10.04.08	1 month ago 24.03.08	1 year ago 24.04.07	% Variation 24.04.08 over 24.04.07
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Rice	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	15.00	20.0
Wheat	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	12.00	8.3
Atta	14.00	14.00	14.00	14.00	13.00	7.7
Gram Dal	37.00	37.00	38.00	38.00	33.50	10.4
Tur Dal	42.00	42.00	42.00	43.00	39.00	7.7
Sugar	18.00	18.00	18.00	18.00	17.00	5.9
Groundnut Oil	121.00	121.00	121.00	121.00	100.00	21.0
Mustard Oil	73.00	73.00	73.00	80.00	56.00	30.4
Vanaspati	73.00	73.00	75.00	79.00	56.00	30.4
Tea (Loose)	107.00	107.00	107.00	107.00	108.00	-0.9
Milk	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	18.00	11.1
Potato	8.00	8.00	8.00	9.00	9.00	-11.1
Onion	9.00	9.00	9.00	10.00	10.00	-10.0

- Source : Department of food and Civil Supplies, Delhi

During the week, prices of the most of the essential agricultural commodities namely Rice, Wheat, Atta, Gram Dal, Tur dal, Sugar, Groundnut Oil, Muastard oil, Vanaspati, Tea (Loose), Milk, Potato and Onion remained at the same level as they were last week.

As compared to the last year, increase in prices was noted in **Rice** (Rs. 3.00 per kg, 20.0%), **Wheat** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 8.3%), **Atta** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 7.7%), **Gram dal** (Rs. 3.50 per kg, 10.4%), **Tur dal** (Rs. 3.00 per kg, 7.7%), **Sugar** (Re. 1.00 per kg, 5.9%), **Mustard Oil** (Rs. 17.00 per ltr., 30.4%), **Groundnut Oil** (Rs. 21.00 per ltr, 21.0%), **Vanaspati** (Rs. 17.00 per ltr, 30.4%) and **Milk** (Rs. 2.00 per ltr, 11.1%); decrease in price of **Tea (Loose)** (Re. 1.00 per kg, (-)0.9%), **Potato** (Re. 1.00 per kg, (-) 11.1%) and **Onion** (Re. 1.00 per kg, (-)10.0%) was observed.

Procurement :

Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 28.04.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 28.04.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Punjab	67.81	67.64	52.17
Haryana	33.50	40.02	23.47
Uttar Pradesh	5.46	5.42	0.21
Madhya Pradesh	0.57	7.80	0.02
Rajasthan	3.83	4.04	0.45
All-India	111.28	126.05	76.33