

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 18th August, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 08.08.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Good rainfall activity was observed over most parts of the country during the week ending 06.08.2008. The areas covered include Northeastern States, West Bengal & Sikkim, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Orissa, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.*
- *Met-divisions of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat which received deficient/scanty rainfall so far, recorded excess rainfall during the week.*
- *Rainfall received during the period 1st June to 06th August, 08 was 507.2 mm i.e. around 1% less than normal. It was excess/normal in 27 met sub-divisions and deficient/scanty in 7 met sub-divisions. The excess/normal met sub-divisions covered around 85% of the total geographical area of the country.*
- *While significant amount of rainfall has been received in North-west India (27% above normal), it was normal in Central India (-7%), South Peninsula (-16%) and North-east India (-4%).*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient / scanty rainfall include Assam & Meghalaya (-24%), NMMT (-26%), Madhya Maharashtra (-33%), Marathwada (-41%), Coastal Karnataka (-30%), North Interior Karnataka (-34%), and Kerala (-33%).*
- *As on 8.8.08, area sown under all kharif crops at All India level has been reported to be 781.82 lakh hectares as compared to 823.03 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007. Increase in area sown has been reported under Rice and Soyabean. Area sown has declined for Cotton, Sugarcane, Coarse Cereals and Pulses. A comparative statement on area sown under various kharif crops is attached.*
- *Being a short duration crop and also used for fodder purposes, area sown under Bajra may improve particularly after better rainfall in deficient met sub-divisions. However, in some areas farmers may go for conserving moisture and sow early Rabi Jowar and Gram etc.*
- *There is some improvement in area under Cotton in Andhra Pradesh but a decline in Gujarat and Maharashtra as compared to area under cotton during 2007.*

- *Area sown under Rice has significantly increased in Uttar Pradesh. However, in Orissa and West Bengal transplanting has lagged behind particularly due to excess rains. Transplanting in these states and also in Bihar, East Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand is expected till August end.*
- *Area under pulses is not expected to improve further due to deficient rainfall at critical time particularly in Maharashtra and Karnataka.*
- *Seed position is reported to be comfortable. Arrangements have been made to make available seeds of suitable crops varieties where late sowing may be required due to deficient rainfall.*
- *The incidence of pests & diseases generally remained below Threshold Level (TL) 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 26.07.2008 increased by 0.03 percentage points to 12.01% from the previous week's level of 11.98%. The inflation rate was 4.70% during the corresponding period last year.*
- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 26.07.2008 decreased to 5.25% from the previous week's level of 5.45%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has gone up by 0.01% and stood at 4.87% and rice has decreased to 6.74% i.e. a decrease of 0.44% points.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI increased to 16.29% from the previous week's level of 15.50% and for the food items, it remained steady at the previous week's level of 5.78%.*

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 06th August, 2008

- **Widespread to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Northeastern states, West Bengal & Sikkim and Orissa during many days of the week. The monsoon was **active/vigorous** over Northeast subdivisions for one or two days.
- **Widespread / fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra and Gujarat region during many days of the week.
- **The monsoon was active/vigorous** for a few days over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Vidarbha and for one or two days over Kerala, South Interior Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat region, Konkan & Goa and Madhya Maharashtra.
- **Scattered / fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Rajasthan, Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, West Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand during many days of the week. The monsoon was **active** over these subdivisions for one or two days.
- **Isolated to scattered rain/ thundershower** occurred over other meteorological subdivisions during many days of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 27 sub-divisions and deficient / scanty in 9 sub-divisions met sub-division.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 06th August, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 29 and deficient / scanty in 7 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (06.08.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 06.08.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	67.3	53.1	27	E	420.5	330.4	27	E
Central India	83.8	79.6	5	N	525.1	566.2	-7	N
South Peninsular India	54.2	44.1	23	E	352.9	418.2	-16	N
North-East India	65.7	85.6	-23	D	826.7	863.5	-4	N
Country as a whole	70.0	65.4	7	N	507.2	512.1	-1	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 08th - 13th August, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 13th August, 2008

- A low pressure area is likely to form over northwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining coastal areas of north Orissa and West Bengal around 8th August. Under its influence, widespread/fairly widespread rainfall activity with isolated heavy to very heavy falls is likely over Orissa, north Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and East Madhya Pradesh during first half of the week. This enhanced rainfall activity is likely to shift to Maharashtra and Gujarat during second half of the week.
- Fairly widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls is likely along the West coast.
- Decrease in rainfall activity over Northwest and Northeast India.

Warning:

- **Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Orissa, South Chhattisgarh, North Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Isolated heavy rainfall is likely over Konkan & Goa, Coastal Karnataka, Madhya Maharashtra and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.**

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places likely over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana and West Uttar Pradesh during next 24 hours and decrease thereafter.
- Rain/thundershower are likely at a few places over the rest region.

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and over Orissa during next 3 days and decrease thereafter.
- Rain/thundershower 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 the region during next 24 hours and increase thereafter.

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely **at many places** over Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Coastal Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands during next 3 days and decrease thereafter.
- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over North Interior Karnataka during next 24 hours and at many places during another 3 days and decrease thereafter.
- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over South Interior Karnataka and isolated over the rest region.

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely **at many places** over Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra and Marathwada.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over East Rajasthan.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at few places over Gujarat State during next 48 hours and increase thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

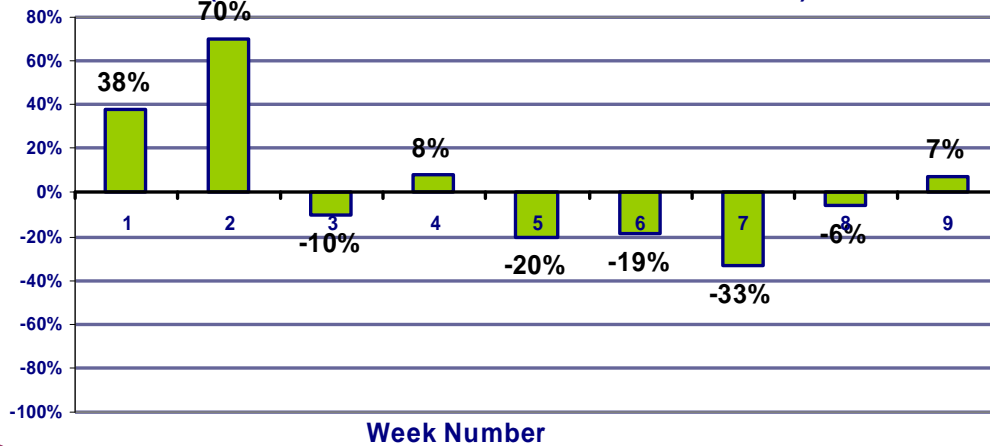
Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over South Madhya Pradesh, South Chhattisgarh and Vidarbha during next 4 days and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over rest region.*

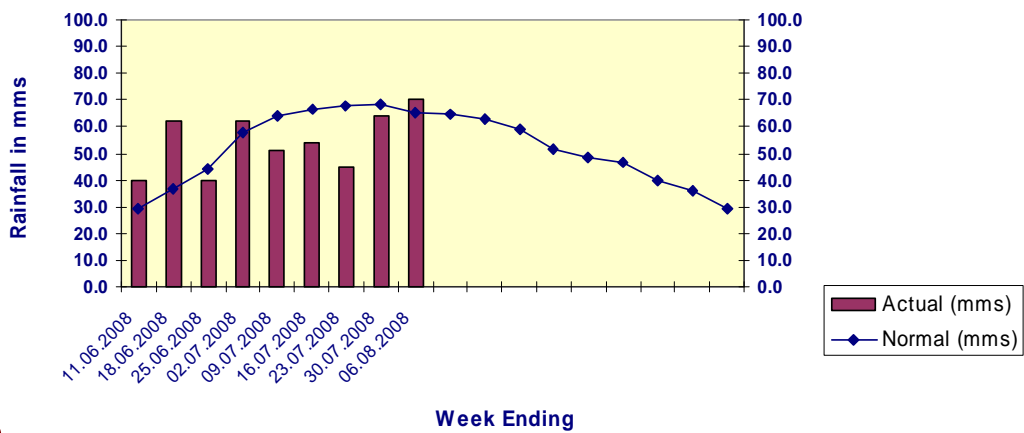


Weekly Percentage Rainfall Deviation from Normal(LPA)- All India

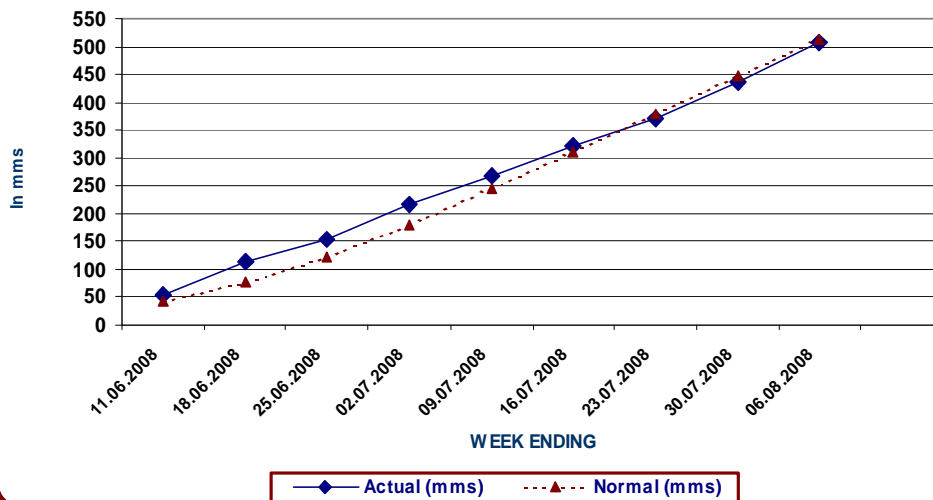
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 06.08.2008)



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 07.08.2008)

- 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 55.82 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 86.35 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 61.01 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

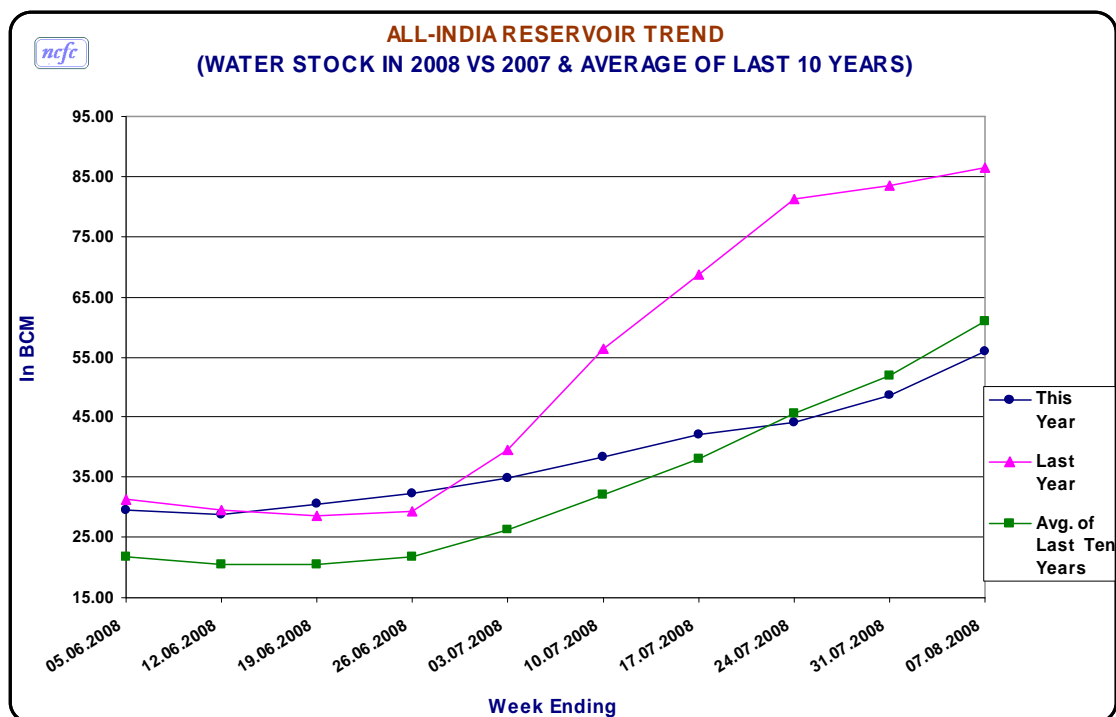
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	37	65	92
Last Week	32	58	94

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 57% on 07/08/2007, 58% on 07/08/2006, 60% on 07/08/2005 and 28% on 07/08/2004 .

* *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%, 20 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 7 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were four reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj), Upper Kolab (Ori), Upper Indravati (Ori) and Girna (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and three reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP), Indira Sagar (MP) 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 April to 05th August, 2008

(in '000 Tonnes)

<i>Availability / Sale / Closing Stock</i>	<i>Urea</i>	<i>DAP</i>	<i>MOP</i>	<i>Complex</i>
<i>Requirement</i>	<i>11621</i>	<i>3525</i>	<i>1392</i>	<i>4040</i>
<i>Availability during 1st April to 05th August, 08</i>	<i>8938</i>	<i>3045</i>	<i>1388</i>	<i>2103</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 05th August, 08</i>	<i>7253</i>	<i>2888</i>	<i>1273</i>	<i>2018</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 05.08.2008</i>	<i>1685</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>85</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 08-08-2008							
Crop Name	Normal Area	(In lakh hectares)					
		Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
		This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Absolute	Percentage	
Changes in major States (abs. %)							
Rice	391.17	251.10	64.2	234.61	16.5	7.0	AP (-1.6, -24.2), Bih (+4.0 +19.6), Chhat (-5.4, -15.1), Guj (-0.5, -40.2), Har(+1.0, +10.6), Jhar (-0.7, -8.9), MP (+2.1, +26.9), Maha(-2.5, -23.0), Pun (+0.5, +1.9), TN (+0.7, +60.7), UP (+15.9, +40.1), WB (+2.7, +16.1)
Jowar	42.08	25.35	60.2	29.60	-4.3	-14.4	AP (-0.6, -38.2), Guj (-0.2, -25.0), Kar (-0.8, -27.8), MP (+0.4 +9.4), Maha(-4.1, -33.8), Raj (+0.7, +15.3)
Bajra	91.81	64.05	69.8	76.09	-12.0	-15.8	AP (-0.4, -62.1), Guj (-3.0, -41.4), Har (+0.5, +7.1), Kar (-2.8, -73.1), Maha (-8.3, -69.8), Raj (+0.5, +1.4), UP (+1.3, +27.6)
Maize	63.71	61.67	96.8	68.74	-7.1	-10.3	AP (-1.6, -29.6), Chhat (-0.2, -9.9), Guj (-0.6, -13.2), J & K (-0.4, -18.1), Jhar (-0.5, -24.8), Kar (-2.9, -29.4), MP (+0.4, +5.4), Maha (-2.4, -40.9), Raj (+0.8, +8.5)
Total Coarse Cereals	226.54	164.36	72.6	187.88	-23.5	-12.5	AP (-2.6, -32.3), Chhat(-0.2, -10.3), Guj (-3.8, -30.7), Har (+0.7, +8.9), J&K (-0.4, -19.4), Jhar (-0.5, -24.8), Kar (-7.1, -32.7), MP (+2.0, +13.6), Maha (-15.3, -48.4), Ori (+1.0, 28.1), Raj (+2.1,+3.8), UP (+1.5, +9.9)
Total Cereals	617.71	415.46	67.3	422.49	-7.0	-1.7	
Tur	34.60	25.58	73.9	28.76	-3.2	-11.1	Bih (-0.2, -39.6), Kar (-1.8, -42.0), MP (+0.7, +25.1), Maha (-2.0, -19.9)
Urad	25.31	16.99	67.1	20.27	-3.3	-16.2	AP (-0.2, -20.5), Kar (-0.5, -34.3), Maha (-2.6, -49.3), UP (-0.2, -4.8)
Moong	26.16	19.45	74.3	26.88	-7.4	-27.6	AP (-1.0, -35.1), Guj (-0.8, -44.0), Kar (-2.6, -58.0), Maha (-2.4, -38.5), Raj (-0.8, -8.9)
Others	22.64	16.37	72.3	17.24	-0.9	-5.0	
Total Pulses	108.71	78.39	72.1	93.16	-14.8	-15.9	AP (-1.1, -18.0), Bih (-0.2, -25.3), Guj(-0.9, -15.4), Kar (-5.1, -45.3), MP (+0.9, +10.7), Maha (-7.7, -33.7), Raj (-0.7, -3.4),
Total Foodgrains	726.42	493.85	68.0	515.65	-21.8	-4.2	
Groundnut	53.54	45.49	85.0	47.17	-1.7	-3.6	AP (-0.5, -3.7), Guj (+1.0, +6.1), Kar (-1.4, -22.7), MP (-0.2, -11.2), Maha (-1.2, -37.4), Raj (+0.3, +8.7), TN (+0.4, +60.9)
Soyabean	72.54	91.29	125.8	83.26	8.0	9.6	AP (+0.4, +35.5), Kar (+0.3, +15.4), MP (+4.6, +9.7), Maha (-0.6, -2.2), Raj (+2.2, +34.4)
Sunflower	7.59	2.74	36.1	6.18	-3.4	-55.7	AP (-0.5, -52.0), Kar (-2.6, -58.8), Maha (-0.4, -58.6)
Sesamum	14.48	11.76	81.2	12.87	-1.1	-8.6	AP (-0.4, -45.9), Guj (-0.9, -29.0), Kar (-0.4, -44.4), Maha (-0.4, -49.3), Raj (+0.7, +24.3), UP (+0.3, +23.5)
Niger	3.83	1.14	29.8	1.27	-0.1	-10.2	
Castor	7.01	3.28	46.8	5.00	-1.7	-34.4	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	155.71	97.9	155.75	-0.04	0.0	AP (-1.8, -10.3), Chhat (+0.2, +12.8), Guj (-0.7, -2.9), Kar (-4.3, -32.1), MP (+4.5 +8.8), Maha (-1.6, -5.3), Ori (-0.2, -16.6), Raj (+3.3, +25.7), TN (+0.4, +40.7), UP (+0.2, +9.9)
Cotton	83.73	80.77	96.5	90.42	-9.7	-10.7	AP (+1.3, +12.9), Guj (-3.1, -12.6), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Kar (-0.3, -14.1), Maha (-4.9, -15.5), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.9, -50.8)
Sugarcane	41.47	44.12	106.4	52.95	-8.8	-16.7	AP (-1.2, -47.4), 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	781.82	76.7	823.03	-41.21	-5.0	

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 26.07.2008 **increased** by 0.03 percentage points to 12.01% from the previous week level of 11.98%. The inflation rate was 4.70% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.08% to 10.32%, (b) Manufactured products group declined by 0.07% to 10.75% followed by (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group increased by 0.22% to 17.12%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 26.07.2008 stood in the order of 19.88%, 49.61% and 30.50%.

Procurement :

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 08.08.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 08.08.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	65.70	53.00
Chhattisgarh	28.65	24.43	28.27
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.51	0.89
Orissa	20.02	22.72	19.06
Punjab	78.29	78.79	78.26
Tamil Nadu	10.77	8.09	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.40	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	9.87	6.22
All-India	251.07	265.08	248.30