

**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 26th December, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 19.12.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Rainfall received for the country as whole during the week ending 17th December, 2008 was 1.7 mm.*
- *Maximum Temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6^oC over some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, East Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Orissa, 2 to 4^oC over most parts of Central India, Orissa, Jharkhand, Marathwada, north interior Karnataka, Telangana, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, North East India, Bihar, Gangetic West Bengal, Rayalseema, South Interior Karnataka, -2 to 0^oC over most parts of Punjab, Gujarat, some parts of Haryana, West Rajasthan, East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, Andaman Nicobar Islands, -4 to -2^oC over some parts of West Rajasthan, Saurashtra & Kutch and 0 to 2^oC over remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum Temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6^oC over some parts of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Saurashtra & Kutch, East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra, 0 to 2^oC over some parts of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Nagaland, Jharkhand, Bihar, Interior Karnataka, Saurashtra & Kutch, West Rajasthan, East Madhya Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Orissa, most parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman Nicobar, Lakshadweep, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Coastal Karnataka, -2 to 0^oC over some parts of North interior & Coastal Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, over most parts of South Interior Karnataka and 2 to 4^oC 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 89.87 BCM on 11.12.2008 to 87.69 BCM on 18.12.2008.*
- *Area sown reported till 19.12.08 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds was 98%, 101% and 92% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 19.12.08, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 497.04 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 476.43 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007.*

- *Area reported was higher by 3.8 lakh ha. under Jowar, 6.2 lakh ha. under Gram, 1.8 lakh ha. under Lentil, 2.1 lakh ha. under Peas and 6.8 lakh ha. under Rapeseed & Mustard.*
- *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 06.12.2008 decreased to 6.84% from the previous week's level of 8.00%. The inflation rate was 3.84% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 06.12.2008 increased to 9.86% from the previous week's level of 9.80%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Rice has increased to 13.89% from the previous week's level of 13.40%, Cereals to 9.42% from the previous week's level of 9.30%, Wheat has decreased to 3.74% from the previous week's level of 4.50% and Pulses to 12.58% from the previous week's level of 13.20%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items increased to 11.34% from the previous week's level of 10.00% and for the food items, the inflation decreased to 10.19% from the previous week's level of 10.50%.*

Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Post-Monsoon Rainfall (October - December) during the week ending on 17th December, 2008

- Under the influence of a **low pressure** area over southeast Arabian Sea and neighbourhood, **scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Lakshadweep, Kerala, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry on 11th Dec., 08. Due to Easterly wave, **scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during the period 14th – 16th December, 08. **Isolated rainfall** occurred over Jammu & Kashmir on 11th, 12th Dec., 08 and 17th Dec., 08 due to passage of two consecutive western disturbances over the region.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Andaman Nicobar & Islands, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, Kerala and Lakshadweep on 11th Dec., 08, between 13th to 16th Dec., 08 and isolated on 17th Dec., 08.
- **Isolated to scattered rain/snow** occurred over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh on 11th, 12th Dec., 08 and also on 16th & 17th Dec., 08.
- **Isolated rainfall** occurred over Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh, Punjab and West Rajasthan on 17th Dec., 08.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess/normal in 03 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 12 met sub-divisions and no rain in 21 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st October to 17th December, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 8 and deficient / scanty in 28 sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (17.12.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 17.12.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	2.9	6.5	-56	D	33.3	51.1	-35	D
Central India	0.0	1.7	-99	S	25.5	77.7	-67	S
South Peninsular India	4.1	7.2	-44	D	255.5	260.5	-2	N
North-East India	0.2	3.7	-94	S	90.4	156.4	-42	D
Country as a whole	1.7	4.6	-62	S	83.4	118.0	-29	D

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

Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

TEMPERATURE

Minimum Temperature

- The minimum temperatures were appreciably above normal to markedly above normal over Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat State, West Bengal & Sikkim and Assam & Meghalaya on first 4 to 5 days of the week.
- They were above normal to appreciably above normal over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Andhra Pradesh 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 18th – 24th December, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 24th December, 2008

- *A western disturbance is persisting over Jammu & Kashmir and neighbourhood and likely to move in east-northeast direction during first 3 days of the week.*
- *Another western disturbance is likely to approach Western Himalayan region and adjoining plains during last two days of the week.*

Warning: *Isolated heavy rain / snow is likely over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh during next 48 hours.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Rain / snow is likely at many places over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh during next 2 days and decrease thereafter and at a few places over Uttarakhand.*
- *Isolated rain / thundershowers are likely over Punjab and Haryana.*
- *Mainly dry weather over West Uttar Pradesh.*

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)

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

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over South Tamil Nadu and Kerala.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over South Interior Karnataka, North Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Gujarat and Rajasthan.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 18.12.2008)

- 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 87.69 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 98.27 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 84.14 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

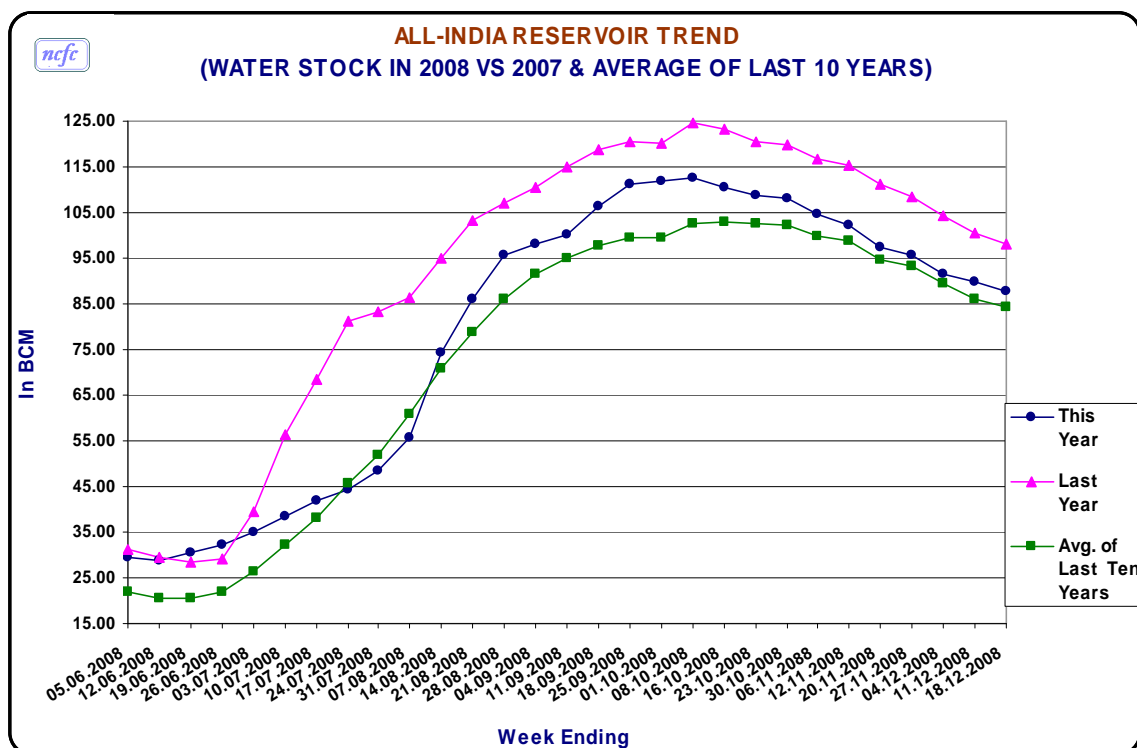
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	58	89	104
Last Week	59	89	104

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 65% on 18/12/2007, 68% on 18/12/2006, 71% on 16/12/2005 and 51% on 16/12/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 63 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 10 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 5 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were two reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj) and Gumti (Tripura) having storage below 30% of normal storage and one reservoir namely Harangi (Kar) 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 18th December, 2008

(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 18th December, 2008</i>	<i>9042</i>	<i>4102</i>	<i>1289</i>	<i>2892</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 18th December, 08</i>	<i>6555</i>	<i>3123</i>	<i>1013</i>	<i>2053</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 18th December, 08</i>	<i>5110</i>	<i>2988</i>	<i>867</i>	<i>1823</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 18.12.2008</i>	<i>1446</i>	<i>136</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>229</i>
<i>Requirement for January, 2009</i>	<i>2646</i>	<i>446</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>621</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 19-12-2008								
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	229.58	86.5	229.79	-0.2	-0.1	Bih (+2.0, +18.4), Chhat(-0.2, -23.9), Guj (-1.8, -15.3), HP (+0.5, +18.8), J&K (+0.4,+32.7), Kar (+0.3, +12.4), Maha(-1.2, -13.8), Raj (+0.7 +3.8), UP (-1.5, -2.0), WB (+0.3, +14.3)
Rice	43.88	37.31	2.17	5.8	2.49	-0.3	-12.9	AP(-0.3, -15.0)
Jowar	43.62	49.11	47.00	95.7	43.25	3.8	8.7	AP (-0.4, -20.8), Kar (+0.4, +3.0), Maha (+4.2, +14.9), TN (-0.4,-33.3)
Maize	11.28	8.15	8.18	100.4	7.55	0.6	8.3	Bih (-0.2, -5.9), Guj (-0.2, -28.6), Kar (+0.4, +66.7), TN (+0.4, +53.8),
Barley	6.14	6.50	7.05	108.4	6.50	0.6	8.5	MP (+0.4, +93.3), Raj (+0.2, +5.4)
Total Coarse Cereals	61.04	63.60	62.53	98.3	58.02	4.5	7.8	AP (-0.4, -11.7), Bih (-0.2, -5.7), Kar (+0.7, +5.8), MP (+0.4, +93.3), Maha (+4.3, +14.9), Ori (-0.4, -92.5), Raj (+0.2, +5.4), UP (-0.2, -7.1)
Total Cereals	386.45	366.21	294.28	80.4	290.30	4.0	1.4	
Gram	75.80	68.50	75.10	109.6	68.86	6.2	9.1	Chhatt (+0.8, +78.4), Har (+0.2, +21.5), Kar (+1.4, +20.7), MP (+4.0, +17.2), Maha(-1.5, -14.3), Raj (-1.0, -8.2), UP (+2.6, +42.7)
Lentil	-	14.45	14.15	97.9	12.32	1.8	14.9	MP (+0.8, +16.5), UP (+1.0, +17.9)
Peas	-	7.41	7.92	106.9	5.86	2.1	35.2	MP (+0.7, +39.4), UP (+1.3, +39.5)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	4.34	140.0	4.62	-0.3	-6.1	AP (-0.2, -37.0), Ori (-0.3, -11.5), TN (+0.2, +104.8)
Urad	8.09	7.30	4.45	61.0	5.99	-1.5	-25.7	AP (-1.4, -45.2), TN (-0.3, -24.1)
Moong	7.21	6.22	1.99	32.0	2.48	-0.5	-19.7	AP (-0.3, -33.3), Ori (-0.2, -23.6), TN (-0.1, -9.7)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.11	64.8	3.54	0.6	16.1	Chhat (+0.5, +16.3)
Others	31.07*	2.99	5.57	186.5	4.83	0.7	15.5	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	117.64	101.4	108.49	9.1	8.4	AP (-1.7, -16.0), Chhat (+1.5, +31.2), Har (+0.3, +25.0), Kar (+1.4, +15.8), MP (+5.4, +18.0), Maha(-1.6, -14.4), Ori (-0.7, -12.7), Raj (-1.0, -7.5), TN (+0.7, +28.4), UP (+4.8, +32.9), WB (+0.2, +19.3)
Total Foodgrains	508.61	482.21	411.92	85.4	398.79	13.1	3.3	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	63.98	101.2	57.15	6.8	12.0	Bih (-0.2, -17.8), Guj (-0.4, -11.0), Har (+1.3, +25.3),MP (+1.1, +16.7), Raj (+4.0, +16.7), UP (+0.8, +9.6)
Groundnut	11.12	8.28	3.69	44.6	3.75	-0.1	-1.6	AP (+0.1, +5.7), TN (-0.1, -13.9)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.70	73.2	2.89	-0.2	-6.6	Maha (-0.2, -10.4)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	9.42	72.3	8.49	0.9	11.0	AP (+0.4, +18.3), Kar (+0.7, +15.8), Maha (-0.1, -9.9)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	0.66	27.4	0.58	0.1	13.8	TN (+0.1, +62.5)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	3.85	85.6	4.08	-0.2	-5.6	Bih (-0.1, -30.6), Maha(-0.3, -43.5), UP (+0.1, -29.0)
Others	0.52	0.54	0.83	153.7	0.70	0.1	18.6	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	85.12	92.3	77.64	7.5	9.6	AP (+0.5, +9.7), Bih (-0.3, -21.4), Chhat (+0.2, +9.2), Guj (-0.3, -10.2), Har (+1.3, +25.3), Kar (+0.7, +13.8), MP (+1.1, +13.0), Maha (-0.7, -15.7), Raj (+4.0, +16.7), UP (+0.8, +10.4), WB (+0.2, +3.7)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	497.04	86.5	476.43	20.6	4.3	

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 06.12.2008 decreased to 6.84% from the previous week's level of 8.00%. The inflation rate was 3.84% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.15% to 11.81%, (b) Manufactured products group declined by 0.54% to 7.32% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 3.90% to 0.58%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 06.12.2008 stood in the order of 39.14%, 59.44% and 1.83%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 19.12.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 19.12.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	10.62	5.90
Chhattisgarh	27.43	8.52	7.95
Haryana	15.72	13.58	14.92
Kerala	1.68	0.65	0.53
Maharashtra	1.60	0.50	0.38
Orissa	23.49	3.94	3.14
Punjab	79.07	80.97	71.03
Tamil Nadu	9.68	1.93	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	12.75	6.77
Uttaranchal	1.47	1.12	0.65
West Bengal	15.08	2.22	0.08
All-India	285.02	137.81	111.72