

**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 01<sup>st</sup> January, 2009

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD  
ON 26.12.2008.**

*Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.*

- *Rainfall received for the country as whole during the week ending 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2008 was 3.7 mm.*
- *Maximum Temperature anomaly ranged between 2 to 4<sup>o</sup>C over most parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, some parts of Northeast India, Jharkhand, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Marathwada, North Interior Karnataka, Telengana, -2 to 0<sup>o</sup>C over most parts of Saurashtra & Kutch, Sikkim, Tripura, some parts of Punjab, Haryana, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam, Mizoram, West Rajasthan, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, -4 to -2<sup>o</sup>C over most parts of the Bihar, Gangetic West Bengal, some parts of Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Rajasthan, Saurashtra & Kutch, -6 to -4<sup>o</sup>C over some parts of East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Rajasthan and 0 to 2<sup>o</sup>C over remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum Temperature anomaly ranged between 6 to 8<sup>o</sup>C over some parts of Punjab, Haryana, West Rajasthan, Gujarat, 4 to 6<sup>o</sup>C over most parts Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, East Uttar Pradesh, East Rajasthan, some parts of Uttarakhand, East Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tripura, West Rajasthan, Gujarat, West Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Maharashtra, 2 to 4<sup>o</sup>C over most parts of Bihar, Sub Himalayan West Bengal, Sikkim, Northeast India, East Madhya Pradesh, over some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, East Uttar Pradesh, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Orissa, West Rajasthan, Saurashtra & Kutch, Maharashtra, West Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, -2 to 0<sup>o</sup>C over most parts of Interior Karnataka, some parts of Jharkhand, Marathwada, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Lakshdweep, and 0 to 2<sup>o</sup>C 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 87.69 BCM on 18.12.2008 to 85.60 BCM on 24.12.2008.*
- *Area sown reported till 26.12.08 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds was 102%, 105% and 95% of the normal area respectively.*

- *As on 26.12.08, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 527.21 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 499.22 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007.*
- *Major crops have reported higher area coverage as compared to the corresponding period of last year. Area reported was higher by 6.1 lakh ha. under Wheat, 4.8 lakh ha. under Jowar, 6.9 lakh ha. under Gram, 1.8 lakh ha. under Lentil, 2.0 lakh ha. under Peas and 7.1 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 13.12.2008 decreased to 6.61% from the previous week's level of 6.84%. The inflation rate was 3.84% during the corresponding period of last year.*

**Points pending from the previous meetings**

1. *As per the information furnished by CWC, storage level have been reported to be low in many reservoirs despite comparatively good rainfall in the catchment areas of these reservoirs. While silting of reservoirs and base level effect may partly explain this low storage, there is a need to identify the problem reservoirs to make on the spot assessment of the actual situation on the ground. For this, officers from CWC / DES may visit some of these reservoirs to ascertain the actual status. CWC may also like to indicate whether any time schedule exists for desilting of reservoirs to improve upon their storage capacity.*

(Action: CWC)

## 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 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2008**

- Under the influence of **western disturbances, isolated to fairly widespread precipitation** occurred over western Himalayan region and adjoining northern plains during first half of the week. **Dense fog conditions** in morning hours prevailed over many parts of the Indo-Gangetic plains and adjoining areas of Central India during the week.
- **Isolated to fairly widespread rain/snowfall** occurred over western Himalayan region during first half of the week. Isolated rain/thundershower also occurred over adjoining northern plains.
- **Isolated to scattered rain/thundershower** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Pudducherry, Kerala and Lakshadweep during first half of the week.
- **Isolated rain/thundershower** occurred over West Bengal & Sikkim, Assam & Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh for one or two days during second half of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess/normal in 04 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 10 met sub-divisions and no rain in 22 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1<sup>st</sup> October to 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 7 and deficient / scanty in 29 sub-divisions.

**Table-1: Weekly and Cumulative Rainfall in four regions of the country <sup>1</sup>**

Region	Week Ending (24.12.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 24.12.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Deviation (%)	Category
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	11.1	5.2	112	E	44.2	56.4	-22	D
Central India	0.0	1.1	-100	NR	25.3	78.8	-68	S
South Peninsular India	0.8	4.3	-81	S	256.3	264.8	-3	N
North-East India	0.6	1.6	-63	S	90.0	158.0	-43	D
Country as a whole	3.7	3.1	19	N	86.8	121.1	-28	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

- The **minimum temperatures were appreciably above normal to markedly above normal** over Northwest India, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat during many days of the week.
- They were **above normal to appreciably above normal** over East and Northeast India, Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, east Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during many days of the week.
- They were **near normal** over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.

## ***Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 25<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2008 by IMD***

### **Outlook for the Week Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2008**

- *A feeble western disturbance is likely to cause isolated precipitation over northern parts of Jammu & Kashmir during first two days of the week.*
- *Another feeble western disturbance is likely to affect western Himalayan region from 28<sup>th</sup> Dec., 08 onwards.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershower is likely over Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya, coastal Tamil Nadu & Pudducherry during first half of the week.*
- *Isolated to Scattered rain/thundershower is likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during many days of the week.*
- *Fog conditions are likely to prevail over some parts of Indo-Gangetic plains during the week.*
- *No significant change in minimum temperature over northwest India during first half of the week and fall in minimum temperature likely thereafter.*

### **Zone-wise Weather Forecast:**

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

- *Rain / snow is likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at isolated places over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at isolated places over Assam & Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at isolated places over Nicobar Islands and Coastal Tamil Nadu.*
- *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 24.12.2008)

- 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 85.60 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 96.69 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 81.88 BCM.

**Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country**

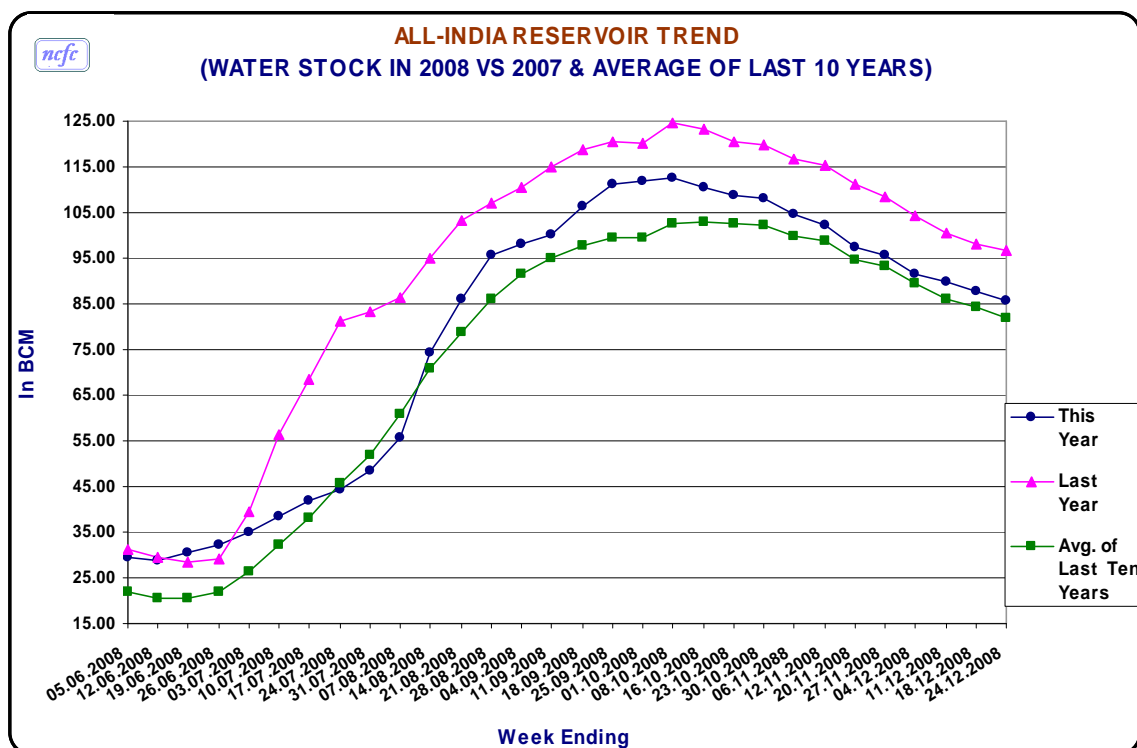
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	56	89	105
Last Week	58	89	104

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 64% on 24/12/2007, 66% on 24/12/2006, 69% on 23/12/2005 and 49% on 23/12/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 61 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 12 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 1<sup>st</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> 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 01<sup>st</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2008</i>	<i>9042</i>	<i>4102</i>	<i>1289</i>	<i>2892</i>
<i>Availability during 1<sup>st</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> December, 08</i>	<i>6555</i>	<i>3123</i>	<i>1013</i>	<i>2053</i>
<i>Sales during 1<sup>st</sup> October to 18<sup>th</sup> 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**

<b>All India Crop Situation - Rabi (2008-09) as on 26-12-2008</b>								
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	
								Changes in major States (abs. %)
Wheat	281.53	265.30	250.43	94.4	244.34	6.1	2.5	Bih (+2.2, +14.7), Guj (-1.9, -14.4), HP (+0.5, +18.8), J&K (+0.4,+32.7), Kar (+0.3, +12.4), Maha(-1.4, -14.1), Raj (+0.8 +3.9),UP (+4.6, +5.8), WB (+0.3, +9.1)
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	48.37	98.5	43.54	4.8	11.1	AP (-0.3, -16.2), Kar (+0.4, +3.0), Maha (+4.3, +15.0), TN (+0.6, +43.3)
Maize	11.28	8.15	8.97	110.1	8.71	0.3	3.0	Bih (-0.2, -7.1), Kar (+0.4, +66.7), Maha (+0.1, +13.4),
Barley	6.14	6.50	7.47	114.9	6.86	0.6	8.9	Chhat (-0.2, -90.0), MP (+0.4, +93.3), Raj (+0.4, +14.1)
Total Coarse Cereals	61.04	63.60	65.13	102.4	59.30	5.8	9.8	AP (-0.4, -10.5), Bih (-0.2, -7.2), Kar (+0.7, +5.8), MP (+0.4, +87.5), Maha (+4.3, +15.0), Raj (+0.4, +14.1), TN (+0.6, +25.5), UP (-0.2, -6.5)
Total Cereals	386.45	366.21	317.73	86.8	306.13	11.6	3.8	
Gram	75.80	68.50	78.42	114.5	71.55	6.9	9.6	Har (+0.2, +21.5), Kar (+1.4, +20.7), MP (+4.0, +17.2), Maha(-1.3, -11.0), Raj (+0.2, +1.2), UP (+2.6, +42.7)
Lentil	-	14.45	14.32	99.1	12.56	1.8	14.1	MP (+0.8, +16.5), UP (+1.0, +17.4)
Peas	-	7.41	8.06	108.8	6.11	2.0	31.9	MP (+0.7, +39.4), UP (+1.3, +39.4)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	4.38	141.4	4.72	-0.3	-7.1	AP (-0.2, -37.0), Ori (-0.3, -11.5), TN (+0.2, +104.8)
Urad	8.09	7.30	4.47	61.3	6.04	-1.6	-26.0	AP (-1.4, -45.2), TN (-0.3, -24.1)
Moong	7.21	6.22	2.07	33.3	2.57	-0.5	-19.2	AP (-0.3, -33.3), Ori (-0.2, -23.6), TN (-0.1, -9.7)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.29	67.5	4.78	-0.5	-10.3	Chhat (-0.5, -12.2)
Others	31.07*	2.99	5.73	191.8	5.07	0.7	13.1	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	121.74	105.0	113.38	8.4	7.4	AP (-1.7, -16.0), Chhat (-0.6, -7.7), Har (+0.3, +25.0), Kar (+1.4, +15.8), MP (+5.4, +18.0), Maha(-1.5, -11.9), Ori (-0.7, -12.7), Raj (+0.2, +1.7), TN (+0.7, +28.4), UP (+4.8, +32.6), WB (+0.2, +19.3)
Total Foodgrains	508.61	482.21	439.47	91.1	419.51	20.0	4.8	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	65.18	103.1	58.11	7.1	12.2	Guj (-0.5, -13.3), Har (+1.3, +25.3),MP (+1.2, +18.1), Raj (+4.0, +16.8), UP (+0.9, +11.7), WB (+0.1, +2.4)
Groundnut	11.12	8.28	4.28	51.7	4.30	0.0	-0.5	AP (+0.2, +8.0), Ori (+0.1, +8.0), TN (-0.3, -21.3)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.73	74.0	2.92	-0.2	-6.5	Maha (-0.2, -10.4)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	9.66	74.1	8.65	1.0	11.7	AP (+0.4, +15.6), Kar (+0.8, +18.6), Maha (-0.1, -9.9)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	0.87	36.1	0.70	0.2	24.3	Ori (+0.1, +22.9), TN (+0.1, +65.0)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	4.16	92.5	4.24	-0.1	-1.9	Bih (-0.1, -13.0), Maha(-0.3, -43.5), UP (+0.1, -29.0)
Others	0.52	0.54	0.87	161.1	0.79	0.1	10.1	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	87.74	95.2	79.71	8.0	10.1	AP (+0.5, +9.8), Bih (-0.2, -10.3), Guj (-0.4, -12.2), Har (+1.3, +25.3), Kar (+0.8, +15.6), MP (+1.2, +14.4), Maha (-0.7, -15.7), Ori (+0.2, +6.3), Raj (+4.0, +16.7), UP (+1.0, +12.4), WB (+0.2, +3.7)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	527.21	91.8	499.22	28.0	5.6	

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 13.12.2008 decreased to 6.61% from the previous week's level of 6.84%. The inflation rate was 3.84% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.34% to 12.15%, (b) Manufactured products group declined by 0.32% to 7.00% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 0.76% to -0.18%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 13.12.2008 stood in the order of 39.14%, 59.44% and 1.83%.

### Procurement:

**Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 26.12.2008 (lakh tonnes)**

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 26.12.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	12.93	8.42
Chhattisgarh	27.43	10.66	9.85
Haryana	15.72	13.67	15.01
Kerala	1.68	0.66	0.53
Maharashtra	1.60	0.59	0.45
Orissa	23.49	3.97	4.39
Punjab	79.07	80.98	72.05
Tamil Nadu	9.68	1.97	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	14.96	8.31
Uttaranchal	1.47	1.21	0.74
West Bengal	15.08	4.77	0.28
All-India	285.02	147.77	120.51