

**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 06th April, 2009

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD ON
27.03.2009.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Item

- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole, during the period 1st March to 25th March, 2009 was 7.3 mm.*
- *Actual Mean Maximum temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6^oC over some parts of North East India, 2 to 4^oC over most parts of Himachal Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Sub Himalayan West Bengal, Assam, Orissa, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, -2 to 0^oC over most parts of Telangana, some parts of Gangetic West Bengal, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathwada, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, 0 to 2^oC over remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum Temperature anomaly ranged between 2 to 4^oC over most parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat, some parts of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Madhya Maharashtra, Bihar, -2 to 0^oC over most parts of Karnataka, Lakshadweep Islands, some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, East Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Assam & Meghalaya, Marathwada, Vidarbha, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, -4 to -2^oC over some parts of Interior Karnataka, 0 to 2^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 42.21 BCM on 19.03.2009 to 38.98 BCM on 26.03.2009.*
- *Area sown reported till 27.03.09 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds during Rabi season was 109%, 125% and 108% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 27.03.09, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 638.33 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 619.68 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007-08.*

- *Area reported was higher by 2.8 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.*
- *Seed and fertilizer 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 14.03.2009 decreased to 0.27% from the previous week's level of 0.44%. The inflation rate was 8.02% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 14.03.2009 decreased to 10.12% from the previous week's level of 10.24%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has decreased to 5.43% from the previous week's level of 5.92% and inflation for Rice has increased to 13.83% from the previous week's level of 13.51% and Pulses to 9.97% from the previous week's level of 10.97%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items decreased to -2.79% from the previous week's level of -1.72% and for the food items to 7.11% from the previous week's level of 7.35%.*

Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Pre-Monsoon Season Rainfall (March - May) during the week ending on 25th March, 2009

- **Isolated to scattered rain/thundershowers** occurred over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim and Assam & Meghalaya during many days of the week and over Gangetic West Bengal and Orissa during a few days of the week. **Isolated rain/thundershowers** occurred over remaining parts of East & Northeast India on one or two days during the week.
- **Isolated to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers** occurred over Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan during many days of the week. **Isolated rain/thundershowers** also occurred over Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat Region and Maharashtra on one or two days during the week.
- **Isolated rain/thundershowers** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during many days, North Interior Karnataka, Telengana and Kerala during a few days and Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Coastal & South Interior Karnataka and Lakshadweep during one or two days of the week.
- Mainly **dry weather** prevailed over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was Excess / normal in 11 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 22 met sub-divisions and no rain in 03 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st March to 25th March, 2009)** was in excess / normal in 07 and deficient / scanty in 27 sub-divisions and no rain in 02 met sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (25.03.09)				Cumulative (01.03.09 to 25.03.09)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia-tion (%)	Cate-gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	7.4	15.7	-53	D	9.0	44.8	-80	S
Central India	0.3	2.4	-85	S	1.5	7.4	-80	S
South Peninsular India	4.2	2.5	67	E	15.5	9.5	64	E
North-East India	2.6	16.9	-85	S	6.3	46.4	-86	S
Country as a whole	3.6	8.8	-59	D	7.3	25.5	-71	S

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

Source: India Meteorological Department, New Delhi

TEMPERATURE

Maximum Temperature

- The Maximum temperatures were appreciably above normal to markedly above normal over Northeastern states during many days of the week.
- They were above normal to appreciably above normal over East & Northwest India and Rajasthan during many days and over Madhya Pradesh during a few days of the week.
- They were above normal over Saurashtra & Kutch, Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, Vidarbha, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, Coastal Karnataka, Kerala and Lakshadweep during many days of the week.
- They were near normal over remaining parts of the country during many days of the week.

Minimum Temperature

- The Minimum temperatures were appreciably above normal to markedly above normal over Rajasthan during many days of the week.
- They were above normal to appreciably above normal over Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Northwest India during many days of the week.
- They were above normal over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during many days and Rayalseema during a few days of the week.
- They were above normal over Gangetic West Bengal and Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura 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 26th March - 01st April, 2009 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 01st April, 2009

- *Two Western Disturbances are likely to affect Western Himalayan region and adjoining Northern plains causing isolated to scattered precipitation during the week.*
- *Northeastern States and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim are likely to experience scattered to fairly widespread rain/thundershowers with isolated thunder squalls during the week.*
- *No significant change in maximum temperatures is likely over the plains of North India.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- *Rain/snow is likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh till tomorrow and isolated rain/snow also likely over Jammu & Kashmir from 1st April, 09 onwards.*
- *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 Bihar, Orissa, Jharkhand and West Bengal & Sikkim during next 48 hours and mainly dry weather thereafter.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over East Uttar Pradesh during next 24 hours and mainly dry weather thereafter.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over the region during next 48 hours and at a few places thereafter.*

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Kerala, Karnataka and Lakshadweep.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

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

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

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

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 26.03.2009)

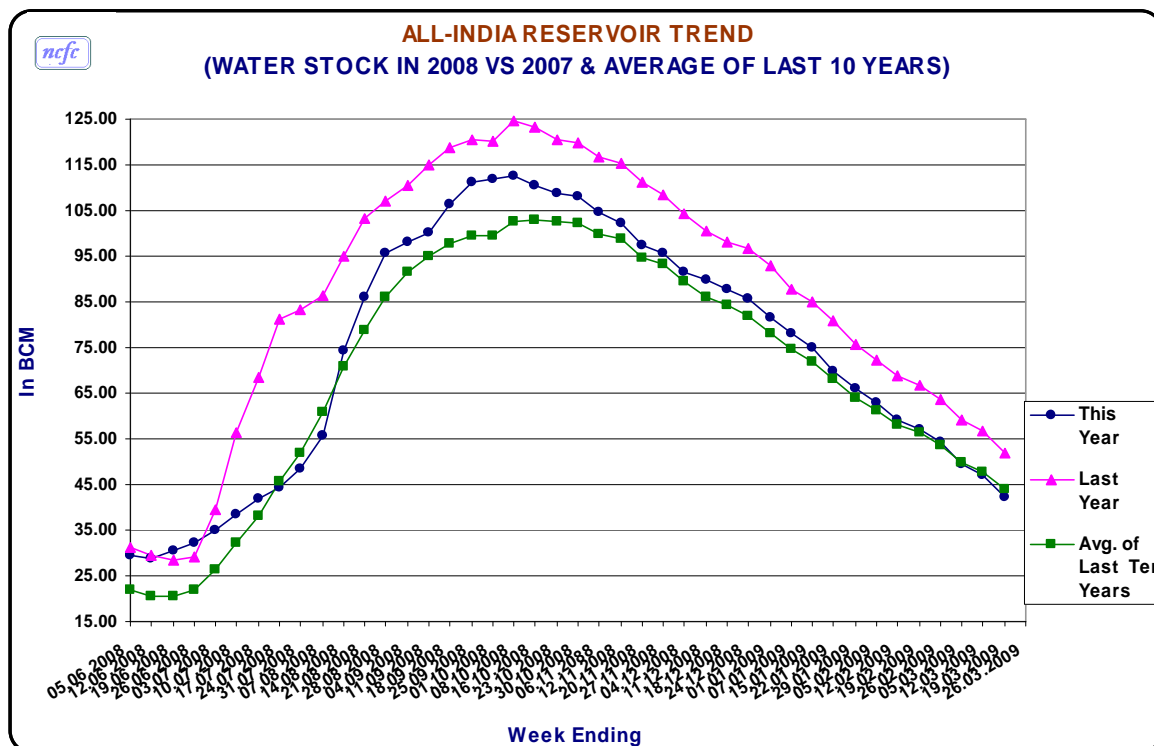
- The **Central Water Commission** monitors the live storage of **81** important/major reservoirs, having Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of **151.77** billion cubic meters (BCM), which is about 72% of total reservoir capacity in the country.
- Water stock in 81 major reservoirs **decreased** to 38.98 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 49.61 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 41.04 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	26	79	95
Last Week	28	81	96
The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 33% on 26/03/2008, 37% on 26/03/2007, 39% on 24/03/2006 and 26% on 24/03/2005 .			
* Live storage as % to Full Reservoir Level (FRL) of 151.77 Billion Cub. Mts.(BCM)			

Source: CWC

- There were 44 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 21 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 6 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were seven reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj), Yeldari (Maha), Rana Prata Sagar (Raj), Vanivilas Sagar (Kar), Vaigai & Sholapur (TN) and Isapur (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and three reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP), Tilaiya (Jhar) 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 26th March, 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 October to 26th March, 2009</i>	<i>14422</i>	<i>5207</i>	<i>2066</i>	<i>4334</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 26th March, 2009</i>	<i>13747</i>	<i>4368</i>	<i>2093</i>	<i>3479</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 26th March, 2009</i>	<i>12521</i>	<i>4254</i>	<i>1801</i>	<i>3308</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 26.03.2009</i>	<i>1225</i>	<i>115</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>172</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 27-03-2009								
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	46.47	124.5	43.67	2.8	6.4	AP (+1.6, +11.1), Ass (+0.8, +23.3), Kar (-0.5, -15.2), Ori (+0.3, +8.8), TN (+0.6, +31.3)
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 (+1.0, +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	Bih (+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	393.69	107.5	386.68	7.0	1.8	
Gram	75.80	68.50	86.80	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	5.09	164.3	5.70	-0.6	-10.7	AP (-0.1, -24.5), Chhat(-0.1, -25.3), Ori (-0.2, -8.4), TN (-0.2, -18.9)
Urad	8.09	7.30	10.01	137.2	10.05	0.0	-0.4	AP (-1.1, -30.0), Ori (-0.2, -5.1), TN (+1.1, +52.5), WB (+0.2 +33.3)
Moong	7.21	6.22	7.40	119.0	7.75	-0.3	-4.5	AP (-0.2, -17.6), Ori (-0.2, -3.8)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.31	67.9	5.16	-0.8	-16.5	Chhat (-0.9, -18.7)
Others	31.07*	2.99	7.18	240.3	7.45	-0.3	-3.6	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	145.13	125.1	136.47	8.7	6.3	AP (-1.1, -9.1), Bih (-0.2, -4.0), Chhat (-1.2, -12.4), Har (+0.3, +25.0), Kar (+1.3, +14.4), MP (+4.4, +13.8), Maha(-2.1, -14.0), Ori (-0.7, -5.3), 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	538.82	111.7	523.15	15.7	3.0	
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	10.66	128.8	12.49	-1.8	-14.7	Guj (-0.4, -26.9), Maha(-0.1, -15.6), TN (-1.3, -38.4)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.82	76.4	3.17	-0.4	-11.0	Guj (+0.1, +100.0), MP (-0.1, -100.0), Maha (-0.4, -16.1)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	11.75	90.1	11.20	0.6	4.9	AP (+0.2, +7.3), Har (-0.2, -100.0), Kar (+1.0, +20.5), TN (-0.2, -47.4)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	1.67	69.3	2.72	-1.1	-38.6	Ori (-0.1, -9.2), WB (-0.9, -72.0)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	4.56	101.4	5.64	-1.1	-19.1	Chhat (-0.2, -18.6), MP (-0.5, -23.2), Maha(-0.4, -48.6), UP (+0.1, +29.0)
Others	0.52	0.54	1.82	337.0	1.68	0.1	8.3	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	99.51	107.9	96.53	3.0	3.1	AP (+0.2, +2.5), Chhat (-0.3, -9.7), Guj (-0.5, -8.7), Har (+0.8, +14.7), Kar (+1.2, +15.9), MP (+1.5, +17.8), Maha (-1.0, -18.4), Raj (+2.9, +11.5), TN (-1.5, -34.8), UP (+1.0, +11.8), WB (-0.8, -13.2)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	638.33	111.1	619.68	18.7	3.0	
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 14.03.2009 decreased to 0.27% from the previous week's level of 0.44%. The inflation rate was 8.02% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.44% to 3.94% followed by (b) Manufactured products group by 0.1% to 1.17% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group by 0.11% to (-)6.06%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 14.03.2009 stood in the order of 341.39%, 244.37% and (-)490.81%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 27.03.2009 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 27.03.2009	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	46.91	35.82
Chhattisgarh	27.43	25.42	26.22
Haryana	15.72	14.05	15.68
Kerala	1.68	1.50	0.88
Maharashtra	1.60	1.63	1.22
Orissa	23.49	16.43	16.97
Punjab	79.07	84.44	77.57
Tamil Nadu	9.68	9.67	6.50
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	34.82	25.59
Uttaranchal	1.47	3.00	1.45
West Bengal	15.08	7.89	3.49
All-India	285.02	255.23	216.08