

**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 04th December, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 28.11.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Rainfall received for the country as whole during the week ending 26th November 2008 was 7.6 mm.*
- *Maximum temperature anomaly ranged between 2 to 4°C over some parts of Manipur, Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathwada, South Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, North Interior Karnataka, Lakshadweep, most parts over Vidarbha, Telangana, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, -2 to 0°C over some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, and most parts of North India, Rajasthan, Central Gujarat, North Madhya Pradesh, -4 to -2 °C over some parts of Punjab, East Rajasthan, West Uttar Pradesh, North East Madhya Pradesh and 0 to 2°C in remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum temperature anomaly ranged between 2 to 4°C over some parts of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalseema, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Interior Karnataka, most parts in Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Telangana, Lakshadweep -2 to 0°C over some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Saurashtra & Kutch, Madhya Pradesh, Interior Karnataka, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, most parts of North East India, and 0 to 2°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 97.50 BCM on 20.11.2008 to 95.67 BCM on 27.11.2008.*
- *Sowing of rabi crops is in full swing. Area sown reported till 28.11.08 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds was 86%, 80% and 83% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 28.11.08, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 343.03 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 310.34 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 3.9 lakh ha. under Wheat, 4.2 lakh ha. under Jowar, 9.5 lakh ha. under Gram, 2.6 lakh ha. under Lentil, 2.3 lakh ha. under Peas and 5.6 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 15.11.2008 decreased to 8.84% from the previous week's level of 8.90%. The inflation rate was 3.35-% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 15.11.2008 increased to 8.75% from the previous week's level of 7.57%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has increased to 3.48% from the previous week's level of 3.26%, Rice to 11.21% from the previous week's level of 8.55%, Cereals to 8.27% from the previous week's level of 6.83%. Rate of inflation for Pulses has decreased to 11.70% from the previous week's level of 12.13%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items decreased to 11.97% from the previous week's level of 12.72% and for the food items, the inflation increased to 9.93% from the previous week's level of 9.31%.*

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 26th November, 2008

- Under the influence of the **cyclonic storm, “NISHA”** **widespread rainfall with scattered heavy to very heavy falls and isolated extremely heavy falls** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during last two days of the week.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread/ widespread rainfall** occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry during first half of the week. **Widespread rainfall with scattered heavy to very heavy falls and isolated extremely heavy falls** occurred over these regions during last two days of the week. Isolated rain/thundershowers occurred over Kerala and Lakshadweep during many days of the week.
- **Scattered to widespread rainfall** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands during many days of the week.
- **Isolated precipitation** occurred over northwest India, Rajasthan, Maharashtra & Goa, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh during first two days of the week and over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya during subsequent two days.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in one met sub-divisions, Excess/normal in 10 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 21 met sub-divisions and no rain in 5 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st October to 26th November, 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 ¹

Region	Week Ending (26.11.08)				Cumulative (01.10.08 to 26.11.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Deviation (%)	Category
Actual	Normal	Actual			Normal			
North-West India	1.3	3.1	-59	D	21.3	39.0	-45	D
Central India	1.6	3.9	-60	S	23.7	72.6	-67	S
South Peninsular India	32.5	16.6	96	E	184.2	231.3	-20	D
North-East India	1.8	3.5	-49	D	90.2	146.6	-38	D
Country as a whole	7.6	6.1	25	E	65.1	105.3	-38	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 Maharashtra during 1st half of the week and over East Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar during first two days of the week. They were above normal to appreciably above normal over many parts of Peninsular India during the week.

1. North-west India - Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, Punjab, Uttarakhand, 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 27th November- 03rd December, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 03rd December, 2008

- *The cyclonic storm which weaken into a deep depression and lay centered over Interior Tamil Nadu about 100 kms East-Southeast of Dharmapuri at 1430 hrs IST of 27th November, 08 is likely to move in a Northwesterly direction and weaken further.*
- *Under its influence, rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy falls at a few places and isolated extremely heavy falls (more than 25 cms) is likely over north Tamil Nadu and Puducherry till 28th. Rainfall at many places with isolated heavy to very heavy falls is also likely over south interior Karnataka, south coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalseema and isolated heavy falls over Kerala and south Tamil Nadu during the same period. Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over the peninsular region, Maharashtra and Goa for subsequent two days.*
- *Squally winds speed reaching 45 to 55 kmph are likely along and off Tamil Nadu and Puducherry coasts till 28th morning. Squally winds speed reaching 45 to 55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph is also likely over interior districts of Tamil Nadu till 28th morning.*
- *A fresh low pressure area is likely to form over southeast Bay of Bengal around 30th November, 2008.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

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

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

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

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

- *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 many places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Karnataka during next 24 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at isolated places over the rest region.*

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over **Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra and Marathawada** during next 24 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at isolated places over **Gujarat state and South Rajasthan** during next 24 hours and Mainly dry weather thereafter.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over **Vidarbha, Madhya Pradesh and South Chhattisgarh** during next 24 hours and mainly dry weather thereafter.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 27.11.2008)

- 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 95.67 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 108.49 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 93.23 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

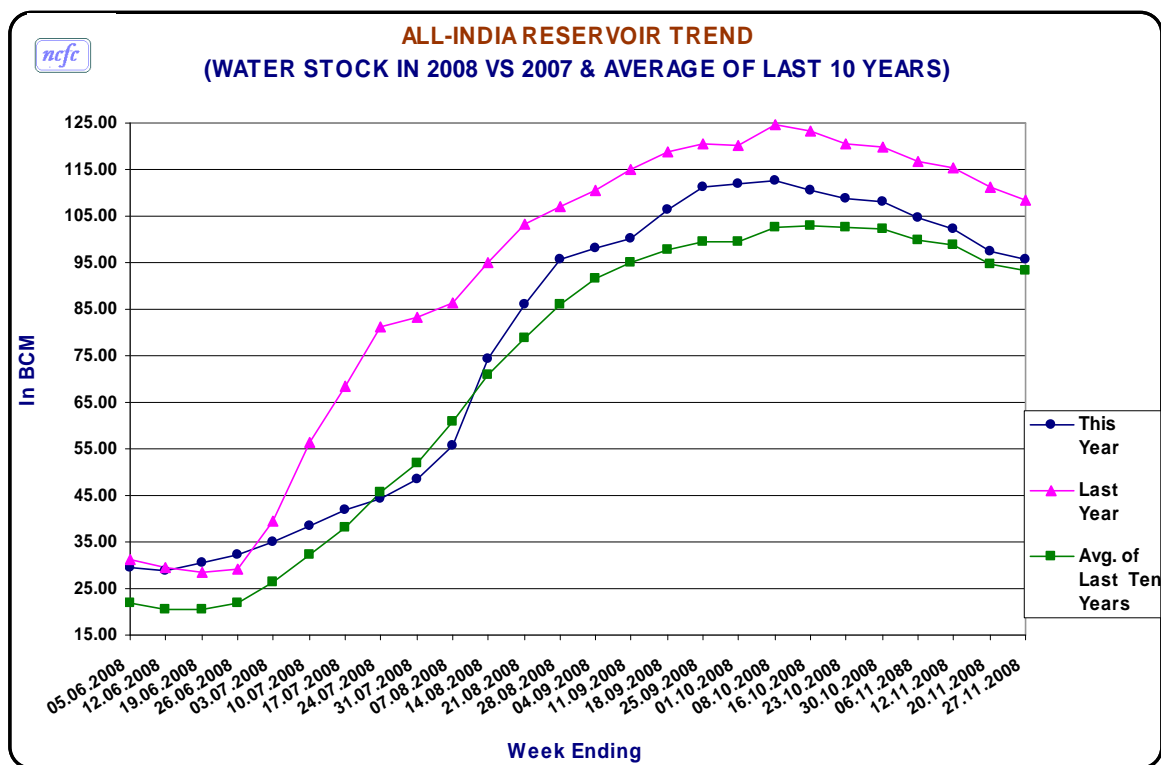
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	63	88	103
Last Week	64	88	103

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 71% on 27/11/2007, 75% on 27/11/2006, 77% on 25/11/2005 and 57% on 25/11/2004 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 62 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 13 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 4 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were two reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj) and Yeldari (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage 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 27th November, 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 27th November, 2008</i>	<i>5448</i>	<i>3306</i>	<i>915</i>	<i>2146</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 27th November, 08</i>	<i>4785</i>	<i>2337</i>	<i>774</i>	<i>1531</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 27th November, 08</i>	<i>3083</i>	<i>2105</i>	<i>629</i>	<i>1327</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 27.11.2008</i>	<i>1702</i>	<i>233</i>	<i>146</i>	<i>234</i>
<i>Requirement for December, 2008</i>	<i>3594</i>	<i>796</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>746</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 28-11-2008								
Crop Name	Normal Area	Normal Area	Area sown reported			Change vis-à-vis prev. year		Remarks
			(In lakh hectares)			Absolute	Percentage	
	IV Adv. Est.	This Year	% of Normal	Last Year	Changes in major States (abs. %)			
Wheat	281.53	265.30	118.03	44.5	114.12	3.9	3.4	Guj (+0.6, +15.7), Har (+1.3, +6.7), HP (-2.0, -55.6), MP (-0.5, -3.4), Maha(-0.4, -7.5), Raj (+3.3, +208.3), UP (+1.7, +5.3)
Rice	43.88	37.31	0.87	2.3	1.27	-0.4	-31.5	AP(-0.3, -34.2), TN (-0.1, -21.4)
Jowar	43.62	49.11	44.53	90.7	40.33	4.2	10.4	AP (-0.4, -23.7), Kar (-0.2, -1.6), Maha (+5.1, +19.7), TN (-0.4,-33.3)
Maize	11.28	8.15	4.75	58.3	3.52	1.2	34.9	AP (+0.5, +94.6), Kar (+0.3, +51.7), TN (+0.4, +53.8), UP (-0.2, -50.0)
Barley	6.14	6.50	4.94	76.0	4.08	0.9	21.1	MP (+0.3, +113.0), Raj (+0.6, +36.7)
Total Coarse Cereals	61.04	63.60	54.52	85.7	48.28	6.2	12.9	MP (+0.3, +113.0), Maha (+5.2, +19.9), Raj (+0.6, +36.7), UP (-0.2, -11.4)
Total Cereals	386.45	366.21	173.42	47.4	163.67	9.8	6.0	
Gram	75.80	68.50	61.96	90.5	52.45	9.5	18.1	AP (+1.1, +26.0), Kar (+1.7, +27.2), MP (+4.3, +23.8), Raj (-0.5, -4.2), UP (+2.7, +56.5)
Lentil	-	14.45	10.59	73.3	8.00	2.6	32.4	Bih (+0.2, +34.8), MP (+1.3, +34.1), UP (+1.1, +31.5)
Peas	-	7.41	6.59	89.0	4.26	2.3	54.8	MP (+0.8, +51.0), UP (+1.6, +64.0)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	3.58	115.5	3.83	-0.3	-6.6	AP (-0.3, -68.4), Ori (-0.2, -9.0), TN (+0.2, +104.8)
Urad	8.09	7.30	2.50	34.3	2.80	-0.3	-10.5	AP (-0.3, -50.0), Ori (+0.3, +62.2), TN (-0.3, -24.1)
Moong	7.21	6.22	1.07	17.2	1.27	-0.2	-15.7	AP (-0.2, -67.9), Ori (+0.1, +23.7), TN (-0.1, -9.7)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	3.15	49.6	1.35	1.8	133.7	Chhat (+1.8, 159.6)
Others	31.07*	2.99	3.85	128.8	2.89	1.0	33.0	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	93.30	80.4	76.85	16.4	21.4	AP (+0.4, +7.2), Chhat (+1.8, +121.5), Kar (+1.6, +21.7),MP (+6.3, +26.5), Ori (+0.2, +6.3), Raj (-0.3, -2.6), TN (+0.7, +28.4), UP (+5.3, +50.0), WB (+0.2, +27.8)
Total Foodgrains	508.61	482.21	266.72	55.3	240.52	26.2	10.9	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	58.40	92.3	52.81	5.6	10.6	Ass (-0.4, -18.8), Bih (-0.7, -64.0), Chhat(-0.6, -70.0), Guj (-0.5, -15.4), Har (+0.8, +13.6),MP (+0.6, +9.0), Raj (+4.4, +19.0), UP (+0.9, +12.2), WB (+1.3, +55.6)
Groundnut	11.12	8.28	2.95	35.6	2.41	0.5	22.4	AP (+0.4, +26.1), Ori (+0.3, +277.8), TN (-0.1, -7.4)
Safflower	3.17	3.69	2.50	67.7	2.69	-0.2	-7.1	Maha (-0.1, -6.8)
Sunflower	11.14	13.04	8.62	66.1	7.40	1.2	16.5	AP (+0.7, +39.5), Kar (+0.7, +17.0), Maha (-0.2, -13.6)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	0.55	22.8	0.49	0.1	12.2	TN (+0.1, +73.3)
Linseed	3.87	4.50	2.65	58.9	3.40	-0.8	-22.1	Chhat (-0.4, -60.0), MP (+0.2, +15.5), Maha(-0.2, -42.0)
Others	0.52	0.54	0.64	118.5	0.62	0.0	3.2	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	76.31	82.8	69.82	6.5	9.3	AP (+0.9, +26.8), Ass (-0.4, -17.4), Bih (-0.9, -60.0), Chhat (-1.1, -68.2), Guj (-0.4, -13.4),Har (+0.8, +13.6), Kar (+0.7, +14.6), MP (+0.3, +3.7), Maha (-0.6, -15.1),Ori (+0.3, +37.8), Raj (+4.4, +19.0), TN (+0.3, +21.7), UP (+1.0, +13.1), WB (+1.3, +55.2)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	343.03	59.7	310.34	32.7	10.5	

Source: Crops & TMOP Divisions, DAC

*:- Includes Lentil, Peas, Kauthi, 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 15.11.2008 decreased to 8.84% from the previous week's level of 8.90%. The inflation rate was 3.35% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **increased** by 0.24% to 11.90%, (b) Manufactured products group declined by 0.01% to 8.01% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 0.40% to 7.81%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 15.11.2008 stood in the order of 30.67%, 50.40% and 19.07%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 28.11.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 28.11.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	4.36	0.61
Chhattisgarh	27.43	3.88	2.21
Haryana	15.72	12.77	14.00
Kerala	1.68	0.56	0.48
Maharashtra	1.60	0.06	0.07
Orissa	23.49	0.88	0.38
Punjab	79.07	80.95	69.35
Tamil Nadu	9.68	1.85	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	4.82	1.51
Uttaranchal	1.47	0.40	0.16
West Bengal	15.08	0.62	0.00
All-India	285.02	111.38	88.93