

**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 10th September, 2008

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 05.09.2008.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Items.

- *Out of 36 met sub-divisions in the country, 14 sub-divisions received excess/normal rainfall, another 6 received deficient rainfall and remaining 16 received scanty rainfall during the week.*
- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole during the period 1st June to 03rd September, 08 was 715.7 mm which is 3% below normal. It was excess/normal in 29 met sub-divisions and deficient in 7 met sub-divisions. The met sub-divisions with excess/normal rainfall covered around 83% of the total geographical area of the country.*
- *Cumulative monsoon rainfall is normal in all the four broad divisions of the country. It was above LPA in North-west India (9%), below LPA in Central India (-11%), South Peninsula (-2%) and North-east India (-3%).*
- *Meteorological Subdivisions with deficient rainfall include NMMT (-24%), West Madhya Pradesh (-24%), Saurashtra & Kutch (-21%), Marathwada (-38%), Vidarbha (-22%), Coastal Karnataka (-20%) and Kerala (-28%).*
- *At All India level and as on 05.09.08, area sown under all kharif crops has been reported to be 968.77 lakh hectares as compared to 996.82 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007. Increase in area sown has been reported under Rice, Soyabean and Oilseeds. However, under Cotton, Sugarcane, Coarse Cereals and Pulses area sown has been less as compared to the corresponding period of last year. A comparative statement on area sown under various kharif crops as on 05.09.08 is attached.*
- *Area under pulses is not likely to improve further due to deficient rainfall at critical time particularly in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka.*
- *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 23.08.2008 decreased by 0.06 percentage points to 12.34% from the previous week's level of 12.40%. The inflation rate was 3.94% during the corresponding period last year.*

- *The foodgrains inflation rate based on WPI for the week ending 23.08.2008 decreased to 5.65% from the previous week's level of 5.99%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Cereals has declined to 5.68% from the previous week's level of 5.92% and Pulses to 5.70% from the previous week's level of 6.15%.*
- *The non-food items inflation based on WPI increased to 17.12% from the previous week's level of 16.93% and for the food items, it decreased to 6.04% from the previous week's level of 7.28%.*

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 03rd September, 2008

- **Widespread/fairly widespread rainfall with active/ vigorous monsoon** conditions occurred over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya and Sub-Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim during the week and Bihar ,Gangetic West Bengal, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura during the first half of the week.
- **Widespread/fairly widespread rainfall occurred on many days with active/ vigorous** monsoon conditions on a few days over Kerala and Lakshadweep Islands.
- **Fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Madhya Maharashtra, Marathwada and interior Karnataka during second half of the week.
- **Scattered to fairly widespread rainfall** occurred over Konkan & Goa and Coastal Karnataka during second half of the week. Fairly widespread rainfall occurred over Tamil Nadu & Puducherry on first day of the week.
- **Isolated to scattered rain/thundershower** occurred over remaining parts of peninsula, Orissa, Vidarbha and Chhattisgarh during many days of the week.
- **Isolated rainfall** occurred on many days over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was excess / normal in 14 sub-divisions and deficient / scanty in 22 sub-divisions met sub-division. (Sub-division wise weekly rainfall distribution is given in **Annex-I**).
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st June to 03rd September, 2008)** was in excess / normal in 29 and deficient / scanty in 7 sub-divisions. (The sub-division-wise seasonal rainfall distribution is given in Annex II).

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

Region	Week Ending (03.09.08)				Cumulative (01.06.08 to 03.09.08)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia- tion (%)	Cate- gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	7.6	37.3	-80	S	563.2	514.7	9	N
Central India	26.3	60.0	-56	D	742.5	831.5	-11	N
South Peninsular India	43.6	34.5	26	E	563.5	577.1	-2	N
North-East India	100.1	67.2	49	E	1140.7	1174.0	-3	N
Country as a whole	35.7	49.2	-27	D	715.7	738.8	-3	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 04th - 10th September, 2008 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 10th September, 2008

- An upper air cyclonic circulation/ feeble low pressure area is likely to form over northwest and adjoining westcentral bay of Bengal around 7th September, 08 and it is likely to move westwards. Under its influence, increase in rainfall activity is likely over north peninsula and adjoining central part of the country commencing from 7th September, 08 onwards.*
- Fairly widespread rainfall activity along the west coast with increase in intensity towards the second half of the week.*
- Decrease in rainfall activity over Tamil Nadu.*
- Fairly widespread rainfall activity over northeastern states till 6th September,08 and decrease thereafter.*
- Under the influence of a system in mid-latitude westerlies, scattered to fairly widespread rainfall activity is likely over northwest India and adjoining Rajasthan during 5th- 7th September, 08.*

Warning:

- Isolated heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Northeastern States.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Jammu & Kashmir and Punjab during next 24 hours and at many places thereafter.*
- Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and North Haryana, Chandigarh from tomorrow onwards.*
- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

- Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over West Bengal & Sikkim during next 48 hours and decrease thereafter.*
- Rain/thundershower are likely at a few places over Coastal Orissa.*
- Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

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

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

- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at many places over Coastal Karnataka and Kerala.*
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Interior Karnataka, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Coastal Andhra Pradesh.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over the rest region.*

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

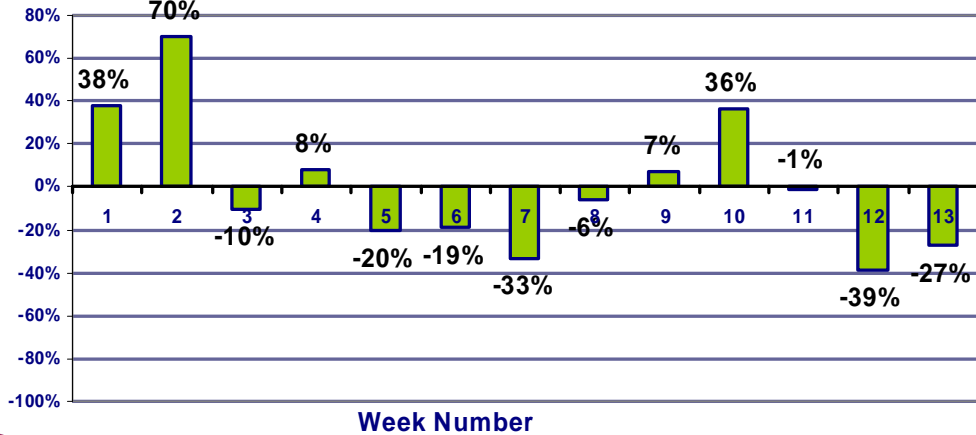
- *Rain/thundershowers are likely at a few places over Konkan & Goa and Madhya Maharashtra.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over East & North Rajasthan, Gujarat Region and Marathwada.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Central India (MP, Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha)

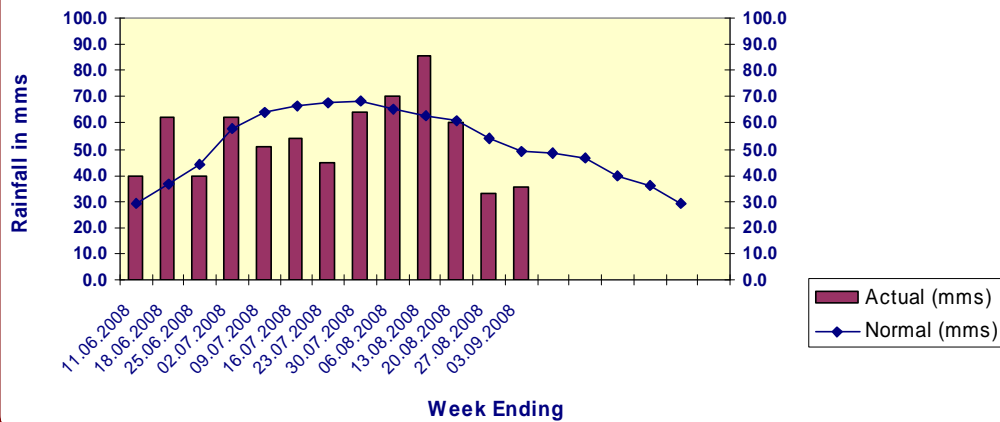
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha and East Madhya Pradesh.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

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

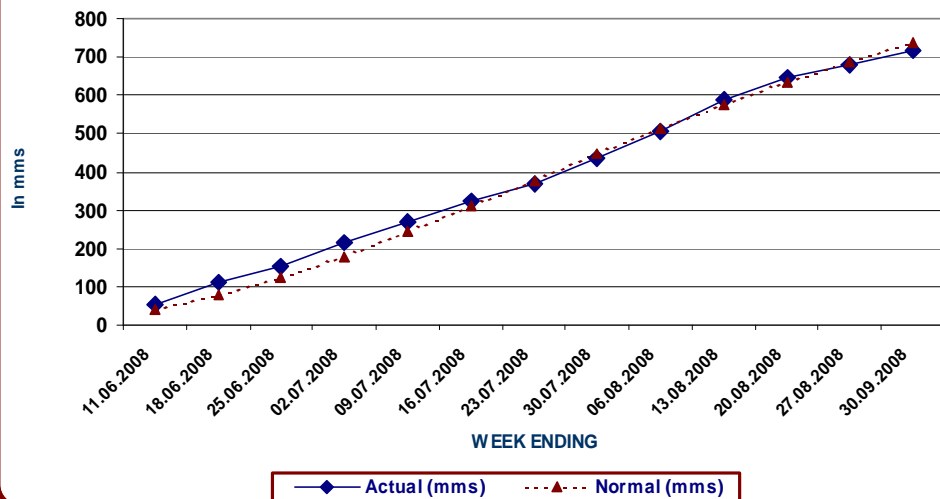
(Monsoon 2008 - from 01.06.2008 to 03.09.2008)



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 04.09.2008)

- 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 98.23 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 110.53 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 91.50 BCM.

Table – 2 For 81 major reservoirs of the country

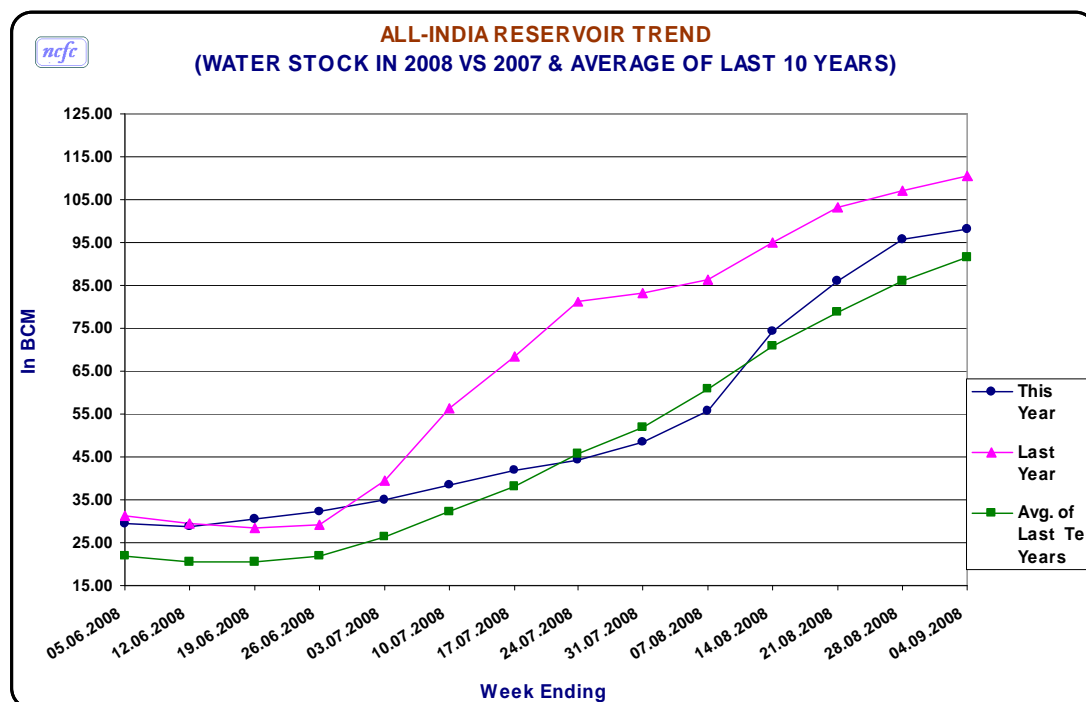
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	65	89	107
Last Week	63	89	111

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 73% on 04/09/2007, 83% on 4/09 /2006, 75% on 04/09/2005 and 63% on 04/09/2004 .

* *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%, 12 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 3 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There was only one reservoirs namely Dantiwada (Guj) having storage below 30% of normal storage and two reservoirs namely Sriramsagar (AP) 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 31st 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 for August, 2008</i>	<i>11622</i>	<i>3525</i>	<i>1392</i>	<i>4040</i>
<i>Availability during 1st April to 31st August, 08</i>	<i>10923</i>	<i>3884</i>	<i>1756</i>	<i>2812</i>
<i>Sales during 1st April to 31st August, 08</i>	<i>9629</i>	<i>3558</i>	<i>1615</i>	<i>2639</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 31.08.2008</i>	<i>1294</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>141</i>	<i>173</i>
<i>Requirement for September, 2008</i>	<i>2090</i>	<i>751</i>	<i>328</i>	<i>858</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 05-09-2008							
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	361.46	92.4	345.45	16.0	4.6	AP (+2.1, +12.1), Bih (+1.9 +5.7), Guj (-0.6, -7.1), Jhar(-0.6, -3.5), Kar(+0.8, +9.9), MP (+1.8, +13.3), Maha(-0.7, -4.7), Ori (+0.6, +1.8), Pun(+0.5, +1.9), TN(+0.4, +16.2), UP (+8.8, +17.1)
Jowar	42.08	27.99	66.5	33.50	-5.5	-16.4	AP (-0.3, -16.3), Guj (-0.2, -27.4), Kar (-0.8, -25.4), MP (-0.3, -6.2), Maha(-3.2, -26.7), Raj (+0.5, +9.2), TN (-0.6, -42.3), UP (-0.7, -23.6)
Bajra	91.81	74.82	81.5	81.75	-6.9	-8.5	AP (-0.2, -37.7), Guj (-2.2, -30.4), Har (+0.5, +7.1), Kar (-2.0, -51.3),MP (-0.3, -14.1), Maha (-4.0, -32.5), Raj (+0.7, +1.7) . TN (+0.5, +220.8)
Maize	63.71	69.93	109.8	72.85	-2.9	-4.0	AP(-0.7, -12.7), J&K(-0.4, -21.3), Kar(-1.8, -16.7), Maha (-0.8, -12.9), Raj(+0.4, +4.3), TN (+0.7, +101.4), UP (-0.5, -5.4)
Total Coarse Cereals	226.54	192.55	85.0	208.12	-15.6	-7.5	AP(-1.2, -14.5), Chhat(-0.3, -12.2), Guj(-2.6, -20.5), Har(+0.7, +8.9), J&K(-0.5, -22.8), Kar (-4.3, -16.8), MP (-0.9, -5.1), Maha (-7.9 -24.6), Raj (+1.6,+2.8), TN (+0.8, +31.1), UP (-1.1, -5.2)
Total Cereals	617.71	554.01	89.7	553.57	0.4	0.1	
Tur	34.60	33.79	97.6	37.87	-4.1	-10.8	AP(-0.4, -10.2), Bih(-0.3, -45.9), Guj (-0.3, -8.9), Kar(-0.8, -12.6), Maha(-1.8, -15.1), TN (+0.5, +353.8), UP (-0.6, -13.4)
Urad	25.31	20.79	82.2	26.52	-5.7	-21.6	AP (-0.2, -23.9), Kar (-0.5, -33.1), MP (-0.6 -10.2), Maha (-3.0, -49.4), Ori(-0.2, -9.3), Raj (-0.2, -10.2), UP (-1.2, -23.0), WB (+0.3, +83.3)
Moong	26.16	23.00	87.9	31.25	-8.3	-26.4	AP(-0.9, -28.4), Guj(-0.5, -22.4), Kar(-2.8, -57.9), Maha(-2.9, -41.1), Raj(-0.9, -9.0)
Others	22.64	21.97	97.0	24.40	-2.4	-10.0	
Total Pulses	108.71	99.55	91.6	120.05	-20.5	-17.1	AP(-3.5, -34.0), Bih (-0.4, -41.1), Chhat (-0.4, -9.3), Guj(-1.1, -15.6), Jhar (-0.6, -33.3), Kar (-4.6, -31.7), MP (-0.8, -7.4), Maha(-8.6, -32.3), Ori(-0.4, -7.2), Raj (+1.8, +7.6), UP(-1.8, -18.2), WB (+0.2, +61.8)
Total Foodgrains	726.42	653.56	90.0	673.62	-20.1	-3.0	
Groundnut	53.54	50.80	94.9	51.78	-1.0	-1.9	AP (-0.4, -2.6), Guj (+1.2, +7.4), Kar (-1.1, -15.1), MP(-0.3, -14.0), Maha (-0.7, -23.4), Raj (+0.2, +4.8)
Soyabean	72.54	95.39	131.5	87.26	8.1	9.3	AP(+0.4, +37.4), Kar(+0.4, +25.2), MP(+2.6, +5.4), Maha(+3.5, +13.4), Raj(+1.0, +13.3)
Sunflower	7.59	5.38	70.9	7.13	-1.8	-24.5	AP (-0.6, -48.7), Kar (-1.3, -26.2)
Sesamum	14.48	13.84	95.6	15.12	-1.3	-8.5	AP (-0.4, -41.4), Guj (-0.6, -21.1), Kar(-0.4, -41.2), MP(-0.4, -14.8), Maha (-0.3, -35.5), Raj (+0.7, +20.5)
Niger	3.83	2.40	62.7	2.63	-0.2	-8.7	
Castor	7.01	6.81	97.1	6.74	0.1	1.0	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	158.97	174.62	109.8	170.67	3.95	2.3	AP (-1.4, -7.0), Chhat (+0.3, +12.2), Guj (+0.9, +3.9), Kar (-2.5, -16.5), MP (+1.7 +3.1), Maha (+2.6, +8.2), Raj (+2.3, +15.4)
Cotton	83.73	89.09	106.4	91.32	-2.2	-2.4	AP(+2.2, +20.9), Guj(-1.4, -5.5), Har (-0.7, -13.5), Kar (+0.4, +16.7), Maha (-1.1, -3.5), Pun (-0.4, -7.3), Raj (-1.5, -41.0)
Sugarcane	41.47	44.13	106.4	52.95	-8.8	-16.7	AP (-1.2, -47.0), 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	968.77	95.1	996.82	-28.05	-2.8	

Source: Crops & TMOP Divisions, DAC

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 23.08.2008 **decreased** by 0.06 percentage points to 12.34% from the previous week level of 12.40%. The inflation rate was 3.94% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.84% to 10.79%, (b) Manufactured products group increased by 0.26% to 11.28% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group declined by 0.07% to 16.69%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 16.08.2008 stood in the order of 20.19%, 50.71% and 28.99%.

Procurement :

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Wheat as on 18.08.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (April - March)	Progressive Procurement as on 18.08.2008	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Punjab	67.81	99.39	67.57
Haryana	33.50	52.31	33.46
Uttar Pradesh	5.46	31.23	5.49
Madhya Pradesh	0.57	23.37	0.57
Rajasthan	3.83	9.35	3.83
All-India	111.28	225.73	111.04

Table – 6: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 05.09.2008 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2006-07 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 05.09.2008	
		In Marketing season 2007-2008	In Marketing season 2006-2007
Andhra Pradesh	53.28	67.28	53.16
Chhattisgarh	28.65	25.77	28.31
Haryana	17.77	15.72	17.72
Kerala	1.51	1.68	1.51
Maharashtra	0.97	1.60	0.96
Orissa	20.02	23.17	19.12
Punjab	78.29	79.01	78.27
Tamil Nadu	10.77	8.71	10.77
Uttar Pradesh	25.59	28.40	25.49
Uttaranchal	1.76	1.47	1.12
West Bengal	6.42	12.18	6.39
All-India	251.07	271.69	248.82