

**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 20th March, 2009

**SUBJECT: MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CROP WEATHER WATCH GROUP HELD
ON 13.03.2009.**

Summary observations of the Group on Agenda Item

- *Cumulative rainfall received for the country as whole, during the period 1st March to 11th March, 2009 was 1.5 mm.*
- *Actual Mean Maximum temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6^oC over most parts of Himachal Pradesh, some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, East Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, 0 to 2^oC over most parts of Saurashtra & Kutch, West Bengal and Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh, Coastal Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Lakshadweep, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, some parts of West Rajasthan, Gujarat region, East Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam & Meghalaya, Tripura, Orissa, Konkan & Goa, Interior Karnataka, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalseema, -2 to 0^oC over some parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, 2 to 4^oC over remaining parts of the country.*
- *Minimum Temperature anomaly ranged between 4 to 6^oC over some parts of West Rajasthan, East Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura, 2 to 4^oC over most parts of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Sikkim, North East India, some parts of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Saurashtra & Kutch, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Telangana, Andaman Nicobar Island, -2 to 0^oC over some parts of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Orissa, Telangana, Rayalseema, 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 49.64 BCM on 05.03.2009 to 46.99 BCM on 12.03.2009.*
- *Area sown reported till 13.03.09 under Coarse Cereals, Pulses and Oilseeds during Rabi season was 109%, 123% and 107% of the normal area respectively.*
- *As on 13.03.09, area sown under all rabi crops taken together has been reported to be 632.93 lakh hectares at All India level as compared to 613.86 lakh hectares in the corresponding period of 2007-08.*

- *Area reported was higher by 4.2 lakh ha. under rice, 4.2 lakh ha. under Jowar, 1.6 lakh ha. under Maize, 6.7 lakh ha. under Gram, 1.5 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 28.02.2009 decreased to 2.43% from the previous week's level of 3.03%. The inflation rate was 6.21% during the corresponding period of last year.*
- *The inflation rate for foodgrains based on WPI for the week ending 28.02.2009 decreased to 11.19% from the previous week's level of 11.94%. Among the foodgrains, inflation for Wheat has increased to 5.82% from the previous week's level of 5.80% and inflation for Rice has decreased to 14.27% from the previous week's level of 14.80%, Pulses to 13.09% from the previous week's level of 15.81% and Cereals to 10.92% from the previous week's level of 11.32%.*
- *The inflation for non-food items decreased to 1.29% from the previous week's level of 1.74% and for the food items it has increased to 8.29% from the previous week's level of 8.28%.*

Action Points of the previous meetings

1. *Wholesale and retail prices furnished by Deptt. of Consumer Affairs sometimes exhibit trends which are not explained by the supply position and prices of commodities as practically observed in the field, beside inconsistencies in the retail prices vis-à-vis wholesale prices of certain items. Deptt. of Consumer Affairs may please furnish a copy of the Price Collection Mechanism for circulation in the next meeting.*

(Action: Deptt. of Consumer Affairs)

Salient aspects of discussions / presentations in the meeting

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

Winter Season Rainfall (January - February) during the week ending on 11th March, 2009

- **Fairly widespread rain/thundershowers** occurred over South Peninsula during last two days of the week with isolated heavy falls over Coastal Tamil Nadu.
- **Isolated rain/thundershowers** occurred over Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh and Assam & Meghalaya during many days of the week.
- **Scattered precipitation** occurred over Jammu & Kashmir during many days of the week.
- **Isolated rain/thundershowers** occurred over West Bengal & Sikkim, Orissa, Jharkhand, Bihar and west Madhya Pradesh during second half of the week.
- **Mainly dry weather** prevailed over remaining parts of the country during the week.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **rainfall during the week** was Excess / normal in 02 met sub-divisions, deficient / scanty in 15 met sub-divisions and no rain in 19 met sub-divisions.
- Out of 36 meteorological sub-divisions, **cumulative rainfall (1st March to 11th March, 2009)** was in excess / normal in 02 and deficient / scanty in 15 sub-divisions and no rain in 19 met sub-divisions.

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

Region	Week Ending (11.03.09)				Cumulative (01.03.09 to 11.03.09)			
	(in mm)		Devi. (%)	Cat.	(in mm)		Devia-tion (%)	Cate-gory
	Actual	Normal			Actual	Normal		
North-West India	1.1	12.3	-91	S	1.5	17.9	-92	S
Central India	0.0	1.8	-99	S	0.0	3.3	-99	S
South Peninsular India	2.5	3.4	-26	D	2.6	4.5	-42	D
North-East India	2.6	11.1	-76	S	3.0	17.6	-83	S
Country as a whole	1.3	6.8	-82	S	1.5	10.3	-86	S

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

Maximum Temperature

- The Maximum temperatures were above normal by 2-4°C during many days of the week over most parts of the country except extreme south peninsula where they were above normal by 2°C during first half of the week and below normal by the same magnitude towards the end of the week.

Minimum Temperature

- The Minimum temperatures were above normal to appreciably above normal in the beginning of the week over Telangana, Rayalseema, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, Karnataka and Kerala. However, they fell during the second half of the week and became normal to below normal over remaining parts of the country, minimum temperatures were above normal by 2-4°C on many days of the week.

Weather Outlook / Forecast for the period 12th – 18th March, 2009 by IMD

Outlook for the Week Ending 18th March, 2009

- *Under the influence of an upper air cyclonic circulation, over Kerala and neighbourhood isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over south peninsula during first half of the week.*
- *A fresh western disturbance is likely to affect western Himalayan region towards the end of the week.*
- *Isolated rain/thundershowers likely over Maharashtra, Telangana and Chhattisgarh during 13th to 15th March, 09 and over Orissa, Jharkhand, West Bengal & Sikkim and northeastern States during 15th to 18th March, 09.*

Zone-wise Weather Forecast:

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

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

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)

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

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

- *Isolated rain/thundershowers are likely over South Konkan Goa, South Madhya Maharashtra and Marathwada during next 48 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 and South Chhattisgarh from tomorrow onwards.*
- *Mainly dry weather is likely over the rest region.*

Reservoir Status (For the week ending on 12.03.2009)

- 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 46.99 BCM. Current storage is less than the last year's position of 56.57 BCM and the average of last 10 year's storage of 47.87 BCM.

Table – 2: For 81 major reservoirs of the country

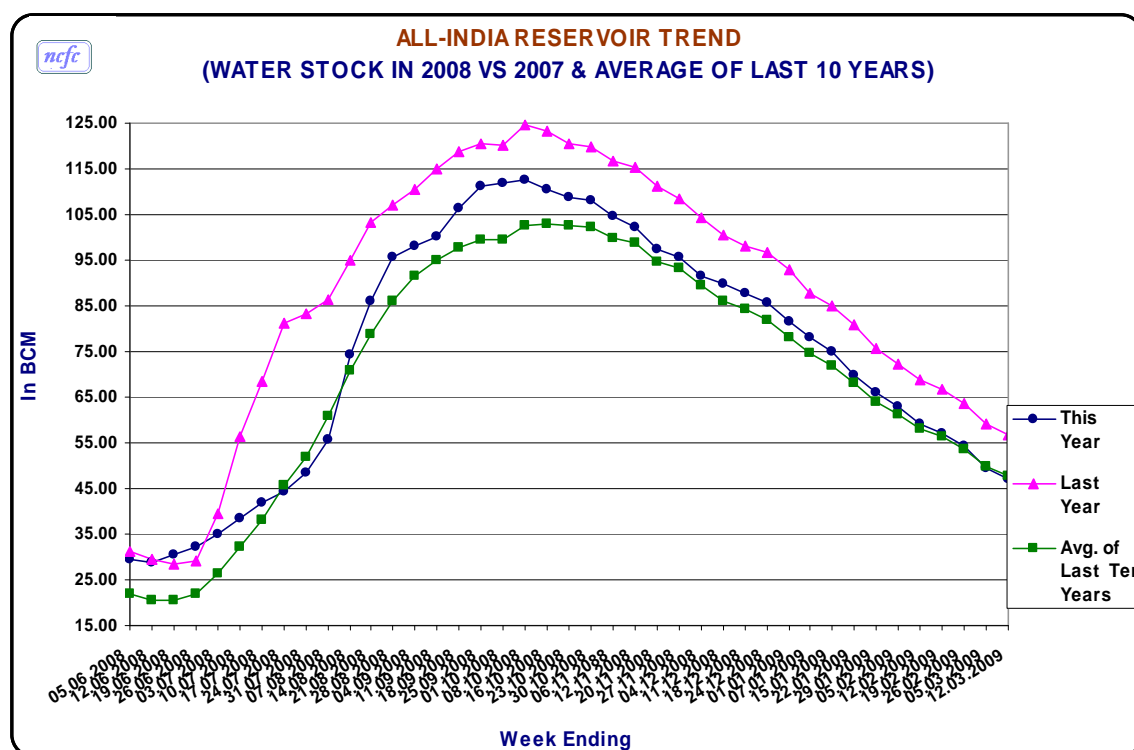
Period	Current Year's Storage as % of FRL*	Current Year's storage as % of last year	Current year as a % of 10 years average level
Current Week	31	83	98
Last Week	33	84	100

The percentage to live capacity at FRL was 37% on 12/03/2008, 40% on 12/03/2007, 42% on 10/03/2006 and 29% on 10/03/2005 .

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

Source: CWC

- There were 47 reservoirs having storage more than 80%, 17 reservoirs having storage between 50% to 80% of Normal Storage and 9 reservoirs having storage between 30% to 50% of Normal Storage.
- There were seven reservoirs namely Gumti (Tripura), Dantiwada (Guj), Yeldari (Maha), Rana Prata Sagar (Raj), Vanivilas Sagar (Kar), Sholapur (TN) and Isapur (Maha) having storage below 30% of normal storage and one reservoir namely Sriramsagar (AP) 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 28th February, 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 28th February, 2009</i>	<i>13302</i>	<i>4921</i>	<i>1838</i>	<i>4002</i>
<i>Availability during 1st October to 28th February, 2009</i>	<i>12458</i>	<i>4049</i>	<i>1916</i>	<i>3263</i>
<i>Sales during 1st October to 28th February, 2009</i>	<i>11681</i>	<i>3974</i>	<i>1667</i>	<i>3128</i>
<i>Closing Stock as on 28.02.2009</i>	<i>777</i>	<i>75</i>	<i>249</i>	<i>135</i>
<i>Requirement for March, 2009</i>	<i>1120</i>	<i>286</i>	<i>228</i>	<i>332</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 13-03-2009								
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	44.58	119.5	40.39	4.2	10.4	AP (+2.4, +18.5), Ass (+1.1, +43.3), Kar (-0.4, -10.9), Ori (+0.5, +21.5), 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	391.80	107.0	383.40	8.4	2.2	
Gram	75.80	68.50	85.81	125.3	79.08	6.7	8.5	AP (-0.2, -2.9), 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	15.21	105.2	13.66	1.5	11.3	Bih (-0.1, -4.8), MP (+0.5, +10.8), UP (+1.1, +20.4)
Peas	-	7.41	8.44	113.9	6.50	1.9	29.8	MP (+0.7, +36.5), UP (+1.3, +39.7)
Kulthi(Horse Gram)	-	3.10	5.10	164.4	5.70	-0.6	-10.6	AP (-0.1, -24.5), Chhat(-0.1, -24.7), Ori (-0.2, -8.4), TN (-0.2, -18.9)
Urad	8.09	7.30	9.94	136.2	9.98	0.0	-0.4	AP (-1.1, -30.0), Ori (-0.2, -5.6), TN (+1.1, +52.5), WB (+0.2 +33.3)
Moong	7.21	6.22	7.19	115.6	7.61	-0.4	-5.5	AP (-0.2, -17.6), Ori (-0.3, -5.04)
Lathyrus	-	6.35	4.31	67.9	5.14	-0.8	-16.1	Chhat (-0.9, -18.3)
Others	31.07*	2.99	6.91	231.1	7.23	-0.3	-4.5	
Total Pulses	122.16	115.99	142.90	123.2	134.89	8.0	5.9	AP (-1.4, -11.9), Bih (-0.4, -8.8), Chhat (-1.2, -13.1), Har (+0.3, +25.0), Kar (+1.3, +14.4), MP (+4.4, +13.8), Maha(-2.1, -14.0), Ori (-0.7, -6.1), 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	534.70	110.9	518.29	16.4	3.2	
Rapeseed & Mustard	57.49	63.25	66.20	104.7	59.62	6.6	11.0	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	9.88	119.4	12.28	-2.4	-19.5	Guj (-0.4, -26.9), Maha(-0.6, -100.0), TN (-1.3, -39.6), WB (-0.3, -62.5)
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	11.66	89.4	10.85	0.8	7.5	AP (+0.4, +14.2), Har (-0.2, -100.0), Kar (+1.1, +20.8), TN (-0.3, -68.4)
Sesamum	3.06	2.41	1.31	54.4	2.33	-1.0	-43.8	WB (-1.0, -98.0)
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	1.81	335.2	1.68	0.1	7.7	
Total Oilseed (Nine)	90.36	92.21	98.23	106.5	95.57	2.7	2.8	AP (+0.4, +5.9), Chhat (-0.3, -10.1), Guj (-0.5, -8.7), Har (+0.8, +15.5), Kar (+1.3, +16.7), MP (+1.5, +17.8), Maha (-1.5, -28.4), Ori (+0.2, +6.1), Raj (+2.9, +11.5), TN (-1.6, -37.6), UP (+1.0, +11.8), WB (-1.3, -21.9)
All- Crops	598.97	574.41	632.93	110.2	613.86	19.1	3.1	

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 28.02.2009 decreased to 2.43% from the previous week's level of 3.03%. The inflation rate was 6.21% during the corresponding period last year.

The inflation rate in respect of (a) Primary articles group **decreased** by 0.16% to 5.84% followed by (b) Manufactured products group by 0.54% to 3.97% and (c) Fuel, power, light and lubricant group by 1.15% to (-)5.13%. The share of these three groups in inflation during the week ending 28.02.2009 stood in the order of 55.58%, 89.72% and (-)46.10%.

Procurement:

Table – 5: Progressive procurement of Rice as on 13.03.2009 (lakh tonnes)

State	Total procurement in marketing season 2007-08 (Oct. – Sept.)	Progressive Procurement as on 13.03.2009	
		In Marketing season 2008-2009	In Marketing season 2007-2008
Andhra Pradesh	74.17	43.21	32.96
Chhattisgarh	27.43	25.15	25.63
Haryana	15.72	14.05	15.63
Kerala	1.68	1.04	0.70
Maharashtra	1.60	1.55	1.21
Orissa	23.49	16.32	14.50
Punjab	79.07	83.97	77.08
Tamil Nadu	9.68	8.46	6.02
Uttar Pradesh	28.91	34.79	25.34
Uttaranchal	1.47	2.83	1.44
West Bengal	15.08	7.15	3.11
All-India	285.02	246.93	207.84