

WHEAT DAILY

10th MARCH, 2007

SPOT MARKETS:

Wheat prices remained mix in majority of wheat wholesale markets. At Delhi, wheat dara for mills increased by Rs.15 at Rs.1030/qlt on the lower arrivals around 2,000 bags from old stocks and 5-6 motors new crop. Demands from chakki millers are reported. Some demand from Uttar Pradesh is also lifted the tone. Punjab mandis saw steady sentiments. Stockists as well as farmers continuously releasing their old stocks on the outlook of bumper production in the state. The yield of wheat is likely to increase in Punjab, the food bowl of the country on favourable weather condition. Comparatively lower temperature and some rainfall during February helped in crop growth by maintaining the moisture content and starch depositing in the plants. The IMD has confirmed on Wednesday that two incoming western disturbances are expected to hit northwest India after 11th March. This may adversely affect the standing crops of wheat that is mostly near maturity stage. In case of higher rainfall and hailstorm the crop yield will be down because of grain shedding. Vice President of US Wheat Associates is optimistic that India will go for wheat import up to 3 million tonnes this year as against 5.5 million tonnes in 2006. If needed India should purchase wheat between May to July when global prices are low because of harvests in most wheat-growing countries. Everything will depend on the Govt. procurement. India will have to import the grain again in 2007 if the government fails to buy from farmers what it needs for its buffer stocks. FCI also has been seeking a complete ban on private sector companies procuring wheat in Uttar Pradesh. Prominent corporate houses are also not likely to enter in the states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh in the initial procurement period because of that the FCI will be active in these states for procurement a good amount. The fear associated with stock limits also make them stay away from wheat markets this year. However, some corporate house may enter the Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat mandis to purchase wheat. Haryana and Punjab account for more than 60 per cent of the government's wheat procurement. In 2005 FCI procured a total of 14.7 Mln. Tonnes and the production stood on 68.4 Mln Tonnes. Procurement came down a low of 9.1 Mln Tonnes during 2006 despite production crossing 69 Mln Tonnes last year. Therefore, procurement policy of Govt. as well as farmers interest of selling the grains will determine the wheat sentiments of India in coming days

PRICE DRIVERS:

Bullish:

1. Govt. discontinued the duty free wheat import
2. IMD's prediction that two incoming western disturbances are expected to hit northwest India around 11th March.

Bearish:

1. Poor product demand all over India amidst Govt. decision to release 4 lakh tonnes of wheat through FCI
2. Wheat acreage increased to 281.782 Lh as on 01.02.07 as compared to 264.336 Lh during the same period of last year.
3. Fresh arrivals are increasing in Gujarat as well as M.P. mandis
4. Govt. will very aggressive in increasing buffer stocks of wheat this season
5. Prominent corporate buyers are likely to avoid wheat purchase this year
6. Govt banned wheat export till 31 December, 2007
7. Govt. may consider to resume the wheat exports in case of bumper production
8. IGC forecasts 624 million tons of world wheat production this month as on 22.02.07. That is increased by 3 million from last month's projection and 34 million from 2006.
9. Govt thinking on ban on private companies procuring wheat in U.P.
10. Government to add Rs25-50 bonus to wheat MSP to beat private competition

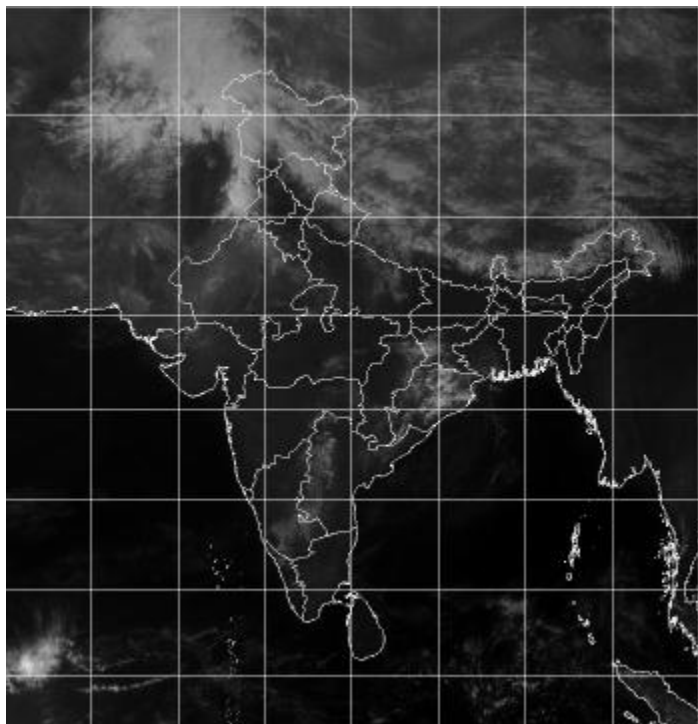
SPOT MARKET PRICE FOR WHEAT (Rs./Quintal)

Markets	Variety	09.03.07	08.03.07	Change
Delhi (Lawrence Road)	Wheat Mill quality	1030	1015	+15
Haryana (Karnal)	Wheat Mill quality	955	955-960	-5
Punjab (Khanna)	Wheat Mill quality	965-970	970-981	-11
Rajasthan (Kota)	Wheat Mill quality	890-895	895-900	-5
Uttar Pradesh (Kanpur)	Wheat Mill quality	1005-1010	1020-1025	-15
Madhya Pradesh (Indore)	Wheat Mill quality	N.A.	870-875	-
Uttar Pradesh (Bareilly)	Wheat Mill quality	1040-1045	1020-1025	+20

WEATHER WATCH:

Fresh western disturbances over Northern and North-Western region may adversely affect the standing wheat crops that is in mostly dough to maturity stage. The moderate to significant rains coupled with hailstorm may cause some damage through crop lodging and water logging.

SATELLITE PICTURE OF MONSOON PROGRESS (09.03.07)



Monsoon Features (09.03.07)

- ✓ A western disturbance as an upper air system lies over north Pakistan & Jammu & Kashmir. An induced low pressure area with associated upper air cyclonic circulation lies over south Pakistan and adjoining West Rajasthan. Under their influence scattered to fairly widespread rain/snow is likely over Western Himalayan Region today and tomorrow. Isolated rain/thundershower is also likely over adjoining plains of northwest India and Rajasthan during the same period.
- ✓ Another western disturbance is likely to cause fairly widespread precipitation over northwest India and Rajasthan during 11th to 13th and over east India on 12th and 13th. Isolated heavy falls accompanied with hail/squall is likely over northwest India during the same period

Outlook for subsequent two days (Based on numerical weather products):

- ✓ Enhanced precipitation activity accompanied with isolated hail/squall is likely over Western Himalayan Region and Indo-Gangetic plains.

Source: IMD (GOI)

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