

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2661
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 7THAUGUST, 2024**

DEATHS IN PUNJAB DUE TO HEATWAVES

2661. SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any data regarding the deaths in Punjab, due to heatwave in last two years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any specific data and details of the reasons causing extreme heatwave in Jalandhar and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Government has provided any compensation to the families of those deceased persons who died because of the heatwave and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a) Yes. The latest details are given in Annexure-1 as per the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- (b) Due to climate change, annual temperature is increasing globally, and the impact of the same is reflected in the rising frequency and intensity of heat waves in various parts of the globe, including India. In general, there is an increasing trend in the frequency of heatwaves in the heat core zone covering northern plains, including the State of Punjab and central India. The rising frequency and intensity of heat waves are clear indicators of the broader issue of global climate change.

India Meteorological Department (IMD), in coordination with various research centers across the country, has been taken multiple steps to improve monitoring and early warning systems, which helped minimize loss of life and property during extreme weather events, including heat waves. These include:

- i. Issuing seasonal and monthly outlooks, followed by extended-range forecasts of temperature and heat wave conditions. The early warning and forecast information are also disseminated through various social media for timely public outreach.
- ii. District-wise heatwave vulnerability Atlas over India to help State Government authorities and disaster management agencies in planning

- iii. The hot weather hazard analysis map over India that includes daily temperature, winds, and humidity condition
- iv. Heat Action Plans (HAPs) in 23 States that are prone to heatwave conditions jointly implemented by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) in collaboration with the State Governments

A series of National and State-level heatwave preparedness meetings are conducted much before the start of the summer season, with regular review meetings from time to time during the season.

- (c) The State disaster management authorities have their resources available through the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and State Disaster Mitigation Fund (SDMF) for support. If there is a request from the States for financial assistance, the Central Government considers it in accordance with the relevant guidelines for National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and National Disaster Mitigation Fund (NDMF).

Annexure-1

Deaths due to Heat/Sun Stroke during 2013-2022:

Year	Punjab
2013	144
2014	123
2015	99
2016	145
2017	60
2018	38
2019	90
2020	110
2021	91
2022	130

Source: National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)
