

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1959
ANSWERED ON 08/08/2024

HEATWAVES IN THE COUNTRY

1959. SMT. RAJANI ASHOKRAO PATIL:
SMT. RANJEET RANJAN:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of deaths caused due to heatwaves, since 2019, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) how does Central Government plan to compensate victims suffering due to severe heatwaves in the country;
- (c) the steps Government is taking in response to reports suggesting increasingly severe heatwaves across the country in the coming years; and
- (d) whether Government plans to declare heatwaves a national calamity in the country?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The details are given in Annexure-1 as per the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- (b) 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).
- (c) India Meteorological Department (IMD), in coordination with various research centers across the country, has 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.

- (d) Currently, the notified list of disasters eligible for National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF)/State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) assistance includes 12 disasters, namely cyclones, droughts, earthquakes, fires, floods, tsunamis, hailstorms, landslides, avalanches, cloud burst, pest attack, and frost & cold wave. The issue of inclusion of more calamities in the existing notified list of calamities was considered by the 15th Finance Commission. The Commission, in para 8.143 of its report, had observed that the list of notified disasters eligible for funding from the State Disaster Response Mitigation Fund (SDRMF) and National Disaster Response Mitigation Fund (NDRMF) covers the needs of the State to a large extent and thus did not find much merit in the request to expand its scope.

However, a State Government can use up to 10% of the annual fund allocation of the SDRF, subject to the fulfillment of certain prescribed conditions and norms, to provide immediate relief to the victims of natural disasters that they consider to be 'disasters' within the local context in the State and which are not included in the centrally notified list of natural disasters.

Annexure-1

State/UT wise deaths due to Heat/Sun Stroke during 2019-2022:

S. No.	State/UT	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Andhra Pradesh	128	50	22	47
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0
3	Assam	3	0	0	1
4	Bihar	215	53	57	78
5	Chhattisgarh	16	3	2	11
6	Goa	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	27	12	8	5
8	Haryana	46	23	14	27
9	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	1	0
10	Jharkhand	88	23	33	47
11	Karnataka	4	1	0	2
12	Kerala	3	0	0	0
13	Madhya Pradesh	33	7	2	27
14	Maharashtra	159	56	37	90
15	Manipur	0	0	0	0
16	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0
17	Mizoram	0	0	0	0
18	Nagaland	0	0	0	0
19	Odisha	84	13	15	38
20	Punjab	90	110	91	130
21	Rajasthan	54	23	1	12
22	Sikkim	1	0	0	0
23	Tamil Nadu	0	0	2	2
24	Telangana #	156	98	43	62
25	Tripura	1	2	0	2
26	Uttar Pradesh	117	50	35	130
27	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0
28	West Bengal	49	6	11	18
	TOTAL STATE(S)	1274	530	374	729
29	A & N Islands	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0
31	D & N Haveli and Daman & Diu @ +	0	0	0	0
32	Delhi UT	0	0	0	1
33	Jammu & Kashmir @ *	0	0	0	0
34	Ladakh @	-	0	0	0

35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL UT(S)	0	0	0	1
	TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	1274	530	374	730

As per data provided by States/UTs

‘+’ Combined data of erstwhile D & N HAVELI AND DAMAN & DIU UT during 2013-2019

‘*’ Data of erstwhile JAMMU & KASHMIR State Including LADAKH during 2013-2019

‘#’ Data of newly created State during 2014

‘@’ Data of newly created Union Territory 2020

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