

# Weather Services and Effectiveness of Heat Wave Warnings

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## Heat Wave/Warm Night Criteria

- Heat wave Criteria for plain region
- Max. temp. ≥ 40°C
  - a. Based on Departure from Normal
  - Heat Wave: Departure from normal is 4.5°C to 6.4°C
  - Severe Heat Wave: Departure from normal is >6.4°C or more
  - b. Based on Actual Maximum Temperature
  - ➢ Heat Wave: When actual maximum temperature ≥ 45°C
  - Severe Heat Wave: When actual maximum temperature ≥47°C
- Criteria for describing Heat Wave for coastal stations: Actual max. temp ≥ 37°C
  - Heat Wave: Departure from normal is 4.5°C to 6.4°C
  - Severe Heat Wave: Departure from normal is >6.4°C or more
- Criteria for describing Heat Wave for Hill stations: Actual max. temp ≥ 30°C
  - Heat Wave: Departure from normal is 4.5°C to 6.4°C
  - Severe Heat Wave: Departure from normal is >6.4°C or more
- Warm Night: It should be considered only when max. temp. ≥ 40°C.
  - > Warm Night: Minimum temperature departure from normal is 4.5°C to 6.4°C
  - Very Warm Night: Minimum temperature Departure from normal is >6.4°C or more
  - If above criteria are met at least in 2 stations in a Meteorological sub-division for at least two consecutive days and it declared on the second day.

### **Spatial Patterns of Normal (March)**

## **Spatial Patterns of Normal (April)**







#### **Heat Wave Davs in March**



#### Heat Wave Days in April



#### Heat Wave Days in June



#### Actual Heat Wave Days in Mar-Jun, 2022 and 2023



### Trend in Heat wave frequency during March-June for the period 1961-2020

#### Trends in Maximum Duration of Heat Wave days during March-June for the period 1961-2020



Rajeevan et. al, (2023) IMD Met Monogarph





# Average HW days during a) the El Nino years and b) La Nina years during the period 1961-2020



shows the average heat wave days during a) El Nino years and b) La Nina years, which clearly shows that heat wave days are much more during the El Nino years than La Nina years.

Rajeevan et. al, (2023) IMD Met Monogarph







# Monthly mean Relative Humidity (%)



# Monthly mean Wind Speed (Knots)



## **Vulnerability due to heat wave**

Total Number of Disasterous Heat Wave Days in Annual During the Period from 1969 to 2019



(Based on data from IMD Publication Annual Disaster Weather Report. Disclaimer: Considered the events with atleast 1 human death as per media reports.)





## **Vulnerable Zones due to heat wave**



# Heat Wave Forecast and Warning Process



SEAMLESS HEAT WAVE FORECASTING FROM SEASON TO DAYS

An array of Numerical Models are used for forecasting

Warnings to: MHA, NDMA, SDMA, Chief Secretaries, State Emergency Operation Centres (SEOC), District Authorities, Health Department, Agriculture Department, Indian Railway, Road Transport and press & electronic media and Heat Action Plan Authorities at City, District and State levels.

through: website, e-mail, Common Alert Protocol, whatsApp, facebook, twitter

## IMD monitoring and forecasting of Heat wave :

- IMD has a big network of surface observatories covering the entire country to measure various metrological parameters like Temperature, Relative humidity, pressure, wind speed & and direction etc.
- Based on daily maximum/minimum temperature station data, climatology of maximum/minimum temperature and other parameters is prepared based on the data of 1991-2020
- On a given day, the temperature and other parameters are compared with pentad normal values of the stations to find out departure/ deviation from normal maximum/minimum temperature etc of the day for a particular station.
- Thereafter, IMD declared a heat wave and/or warm night over the region as per its definition.
- Based on numerical models and observed date utilising a decision support system, IMD issues daily forecast of temperature and other parameters and accordingly the heat wave forecast upto 5 days, extended range forecast upto 4 weeks on every Thursday and monthly and seasonal forecast for every month and season in the begining of month/season.
- Accordingly, Impact based forecast in colour coded form and information about impact expected with action suggested in disseminated to all stake holders.





#### Seasonal Forecast (An example): Probabilistic Forecast for the Maximum Temperature March to May season 2023 .



During the upcoming hot weather season (March to May (MAM)), above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over most parts of northeast India, east and central India and some parts of north west India. Normal to below normal maximum temperatures are most likely remaining parts of the country.

Probabilistic Forecast for the Minimum Temperature March to May season 2023 Based on the Multi Model Ensemble Forecasting System.



minimum temperatures are very likely over most parts of the country except south peninsular India where normal to below normal minimum temperatures are likely.

The white shaded areas within the land area represent climatological probabilities. . (\*Tercile categories have equal climatological probabilities, of 33.33% each).

#### Heat wave outlook for March to May season 2023 based on the Multi Model Ensemble Forecasting System.



Enhanced probability of occurrence of Heatwave during March to May season is likely over many regions of Central and adjoining Northwest India.

## Heatwave outlook for May, 2023



Above-normal heat wave days are expected over most parts of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, Gangetic West Bengal, east Uttar Pradesh, coastal Andhra Pradesh and some parts of North Chhattisgarh, east Madhya Pradesh, Telangana and coastal Gujarat during May 2023

![](_page_13_Picture_7.jpeg)

#### Extended Range Forecast of maximum temperature (Tmax) anomaly for 4 weeks

![](_page_14_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Picture_4.jpeg)

# Heat Wave Impact Based Forecasting by IMD

- Heat Wave and Warm Nights are characterized by abnormally high surface air maximum (minimum) temperatures.
- Co-existence of Heat Waves/Warm Nights aggravate their impact.
- Humidity aggravates the impact of hot weather by affecting the perspiration mechanism.
- Hot and dry winds aggravate the impact of heat waves.
- Persistence of abnormal temperatures and above conditions lead to cumulative effect.

### IMDs Colour Coded Impact based forecast uses the following:

- a) Absolute Maximum Temperatures, their departures and percentile status.
- b) Absolute Minimum Temperatures, their departures and percentile status.
- c) Relative Humidity Forecast.
- d) Wind Speed Forecast.
- e) Persistence of Above.

![](_page_15_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_14.jpeg)

# objective Heat Wave IBF

DSS

Hot Weather Hazard Analysisfor entire country consideringdifferentmeteorologicalparameters

**Operational Experimental Heat Index** 

GIS based Heat Wave forecast and warning Services products

GIS based Socio Economic exposure products

Percentile based extreme temperature information.

Vulnerability Atlas with respect to Heat Waves for India.

## **Impact & Action Suggested**

Colour code	Alert	Warning	Impact	Suggested Actions
Green (No action)	Normal Day	Maximum temperatures are near normal.	Comfortable temperature. No cautionary action required.	No cautionary action required
Yeliow Alert (Be updated)	Heat Alert	Heat wave conditions at isolated pockets persists on 2 days	Moderate temperature. Heat is tolerable for general public but moderate health concern for vulnerable people e.g. infants, elderly, people with chronic diseases	<ul> <li>(a) Avoid heat</li> <li>exposure. (b) Wear</li> <li>lightweight, light</li> <li>coloured, loose,</li> <li>cotton clothes. (c)</li> <li>Cover your head:</li> <li>Use a cloth, hat or</li> <li>umbrella</li> </ul>
Orange Alert (Be prepared)	Severe Heat Alert for the day	<ul> <li>i. Severe heat wave conditions likely to persist for 2 days,</li> <li>ii. With varied severity, heat wave is likely to persist for 4 days or more.</li> </ul>	High temperature. Increased likelihood of heat illness symptoms in people who are either exposed to sun for a prolonged period or doing heavy work. High health concern for vulnerable people e.g. infants, elderly, people with chronic diseases.	a) Avoid heat exposure- keep cool. Avoid dehydration. (b) Drink sufficient water- even if not thirsty. (c) Use ORS, homemade drinks like lassi, torani (rice water), lemon water, buttermilk, etc. to keep yourself hydrated
Red Alert (Take Action)	Extreme Heat Alert for the day	<ol> <li>Severe heat wave likely to persist for more than 2 days.</li> <li>Total number of heat/severe heat wave days likely to exceed 6 days.</li> </ol>	Very high likelihood of developing heat illness and heat stroke in all ages.	Extreme care needed for vulnerable people.

![](_page_16_Picture_9.jpeg)

## Heat Wave Warning In medium range (upto 5 days) issued twice a day

#### Heat Wave Warnings for Next 5 Days

DAY-1:- Heat Wave to severe heat wave conditions very likely in some pockets over Bihar and West Bengal and heat wave conditions in isolated pockets over Odisha, Jharkhand, Konkan & Goa and Coastal Andhra Pradesh.

DAY-2:- Heat Wave conditions very likely in isolated pockets over Odisha, West Bengal and Bihar.

DAY-3:- Heat Wave conditions very likely in isolated pockets Gangetic West Bengal.

DAY-4:- NIL.

DAY-5:- NIL

#### **IMPACT & ACTION SUGGESTED:**

Yellow alert Areas: (1)Moderate temperature, Heat is tolerable for general public but moderate health concern for vulnerable people e.g. infants, elderly, people with chronic diseases.

(2) Avoid heat exposure, Wear lightweight, light coloured, loose, cotton clothes, Cover your head, Use a cloth, hat or umbrella.

Orange alert Areas: (1) High temperature, Increased likelihood of heat illness symptoms in people who are either exposed to sun for a prolonged period or doing heavy work. High health concern for vulnerable people e.g. infants, elderly, people with chronic diseases.

(2) Drink sufficient water- even if not thirsty, Use ORS, homemade drinks like lassi, torani (rice water), lemon water, buttermilk, etc. to keep yourself hydrated.

![](_page_17_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_15.jpeg)

## **HEAT WAVE FORECASTING SKILLS 2023**

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

- POD: Probability of Detection
- There is significant improvement in recent five years compared to previous five years

# Heat Hazard Analysis

Heat Wave hazard analysis for entire country for four hot weather months (MARCH, APRIL, MAY & JUNE) considering the Maximum Temperature, Minimum Temperature, Humidity, Wind and Duration.

This will lead to identification of hazard scores based on different meteorological parameters aggravating impact of Heat Waves. These scores could in future be utilized as threshold to generate Heat Wave impact based alerts for the specific locations.

(1)Severe Heat Wave/Heat Wave Consideration:-	(2) RH Consideration:-
For Each Day of Month, If	1. Average RH for East Coast for each Month is calculated.
Max Temp < Normal => 0 Weight	2. This average RH of east coast is considered as threshold
Max Temp > Normal but no HW => 1 Weight	below which weight of 0 is assigned to stations in each
Heat Wave=> 2 Weight	month.
Severe Heat Wave => 3 Weight.	3. The RH range above this threshold for any station is
If Max Temp > Normal then if,	divided into three parts and are given the weightage of
Min Temp < Normal => 0 Weight	1, 2 & 3 respectively for any Heat Wave/Severe Heat
MinTemp > Normal but no WN => 1 Weight	Wave event.
Warm Night=> 2 Weight	4. RH is calculated individually for Days when Max Temp >
Very Warm Night => 3 Weight.	Normal or for Heat Wave and Severe Heat Wave events.
(3) Wind Speed Consideration:-	(4) Duration of Heat Wave Spell Consideration:-
<ul><li>(3) Wind Speed Consideration:-</li><li>1. Wind Speed of 2 kts is considered as threshold</li></ul>	<ul> <li>(4) Duration of Heat Wave Spell Consideration:-</li> <li>1. Each day is identified as day 1,2,3 or 4th and above day</li> </ul>
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## **Monthly mean Hot Weather Hazard Scores**

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_4.jpeg)

# Heat Index forecast started in 2023

#### HEAT INDEX (EXPERIMENTAL FORECAST) DATED 20-06-2023

![](_page_21_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_21_Picture_5.jpeg)

# Percentile based extreme temperature information.

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

**98** percentile Temperatures for March, April, May and June.

विभाग DEPARTMENT

![](_page_22_Picture_4.jpeg)

Observed Max Temp Difference from Monthly a) 90 Percentile; b) 95 Percentile; c) 98 Percentile.

![](_page_22_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_0.jpeg)

INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

![](_page_23_Picture_2.jpeg)

## GIS based important Heat Wave Products (contd)

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Heat Wave days and No. of deaths due to heat wave

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

IMD's requirement for Impact based Forecasting (IBF) of Heat Waves:-

- Multistakeholder team having experts from academia/research as well as operational setup from specific sector.
- Easy accessibility of data from the sectors.
- The aim of the team would be to devise methods and threshold for targeted region wise sector specific impact based forecasting services.

Coordination by NDMA and depending on priority following tentative sector could be considered.

Heat Wave + Health.
Heat Wave + Agriculture.
Heat Wave + Forest Fire.
Heat Wave + Transport.
Heat Wave + Energy.
Heat Wave + .....

IBF requires domain expertise from the specific sector in addition to meteorological expertise. These teams could be tapping this multisectoral expertise in generating targeted forecast and warning services.

![](_page_26_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_9.jpeg)

# **THANK YOU**

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Picture_3.jpeg)