

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE**

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2334  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2023**

**DEATHS DUE TO HEAT STROKES**

**2334. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that heat strokes have become the second leading cause of death from natural forces in the country;
- (b) whether Government has prepared any year-wise action plan that track these deaths and aim to tackle it;
- (c) if so, the number of cities where they are implemented; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND  
FAMILY WELFARE  
(DR. BHARATI PRAVIN PAWAR)**

(a) to (d):

As per data reported by States/UTs, 33 deaths were reported due to heat related illness in the year 2022. For the year 2023, no death due to heat related illness has been reported.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has launched National Program on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH) in 2019. The programme supports health sector response to adapt and mitigate impact of extreme heat through key objectives:

- i. Awareness generation
- ii. Capacity building of the health workforce.
- iii. Strengthening health sector preparedness (including Heat-related illness surveillance, heat-health action plans, health facility preparedness and long-term adaptation and mitigation measures).
- iv. Intersectoral coordination
- v. Steering research with ICMR.

Union Health Ministry has released National Action plan on Heat related illness in 2021. This document provides guidance to manage severe heat-related illnesses including clinical management, health facility preparedness and surveillance of heat related illnesses. Based on the guiding principle of the National Action Plan, 18 States have also prepared heat illness action plan for response at state level.

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