

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF SCHOOL EDUCATION & LITERACY

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 367
ANSWERED ON 22/07/2026

Impact of recurring heatwaves on students

367 Shri Constandine Ravindran:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has assessed the growing impact of recurring heatwaves on school-going children, particularly in view of rising temperatures and recent measures such as water reminder systems introduced in educational institutions;

(b) if so, the details of measures undertaken by Government in coordination with the Tamil Nadu State Government and other States to protect students through revised school timings, hydration protocols, cooling infrastructure and heat safety advisories; and

(c) the initiatives proposed to be taken by Government to develop long-term heat resilience measures for schools and educational institutions across the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(SHRI JAYANT CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution of India and majority of the schools, are under the administrative control of respective State and UT Governments. The concerned States/UTs are to ensure that learning outcomes are not affected due to heatwave and other weather-related school closures, according to local weather conditions. The State Governments revise school timings depending on prevailing weather in concerned areas. However, keeping in view the prevailing heat wave in various parts of the country, which may pose a risk at times to the health of the school going students, Department of School Education & Literacy has issued guidelines on 11th May, 2022 regarding measures to combat ill effects of the heat wave by schools, to all States/UTs including Tamil Nadu. To improve the resilience of school infrastructure against heatwaves, the guidelines *inter-alia* include following precautions to be observed by schools to combat the ill-effects of the heat wave:-

- School should ensure that all fans are functional and that all classrooms are properly ventilated.
- Availability of alternate power back up may be arranged, if possible.

- Curtains/blinds/newspaper, etc. may be used to stop the sunlight entering directly into the classroom.
- If any local traditional practices are being followed by the school to keep the surroundings cool such as ‘Khus’ curtains, bamboo/jute chiks etc., they may be continued.

The guidelines are advisory in nature and States/UTs including Tamil Nadu may use these as per their local conditions, in the manner deemed fit to prepare their SOPs/Guidelines to combat ill effects of the heat waves in their schools.
