

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5658
TO BE ANSWERED ON 04.04.2025**

COLD-WAVE RELATED HEALTH RISKS

5658. SHRI MUKESHKUMAR CHANDRAKAANT DALAL:

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

- (a) whether any steps have been taken by the Government to mitigate cold-wave related health risks in vulnerable populations and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any steps have been taken by the Government hospitals to handle cold-wave related emergencies and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to create awareness regarding the precautions to be taken for cold-waves; and
- (d) whether there has been a change in the number of cold-wave related casualties in the country in 2024 in comparison to the past years and if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY
WELFARE
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d) To enhance public awareness, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare disseminates public health advisories on cold waves and frost before the peak winter season in cold wave-prone regions. These advisories aim to inform the general public, including vulnerable groups, about preventive measures and safety guidelines.

State Health Departments in affected regions are responsible for translating, updating, and distributing these advisories through audio, visual, and print media to ensure widespread awareness.

For effective seasonal preparedness, State Health Departments are advised to align their strategies with the National Guidelines for Preparation of Action Plan – Prevention and Management of Cold Wave and Frost, issued by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA).

The primary responsibility for implementing necessary measures to prevent cold wave-related fatalities, including the construction of cold shelters, rests with the respective State Governments. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare does not centrally maintain data on deaths caused by cold waves.
