



Ministry of Home Affairs

# NDMA reviews preparedness of States to counter heat wave and lightning

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The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) conducted a meeting with 17 heat wave-prone States here today to review their preparedness and mitigation measures. In view of the recent incidents of thunderstorm and lightning, preparedness measures relating to these hazards were also assessed.

In the meeting conducted through video conference, Shri R. K. Jain, Member, NDMA, requested the States to run extensive public awareness campaigns in local languages to educate people about the simple ways of mitigating the impact of heat waves and lightning.

He also asked the States to work on developing thresholds at local levels and ensure wider dissemination of early warnings.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) informed that besides the regular five-day forecasts, it now comes out with a special heat bulletins at 0730 hrs to help people plan their day accordingly.

A detailed review of the preparedness of the States in terms of having Heat Action Plans up to the district level, providing shelters, drinking water, rescheduling work timings to avoid peak heat impact for labourers, medical treatment, etc. was carried out.

NDMA underlined the importance of training all stakeholders to build local capacities and ensure better response in an emergency. The Authority also asked the States to share a report on the activities carried out by them so that best practices followed by one State can be suitably adapted by others.

Besides, NDMA has been running an all-out awareness campaign on social media on the do's and don'ts of heat wave, thunderstorms and lightning. NDMA's "Beat The Heat India" campaign is being widely used and publicised by various other stakeholders.

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