

## ADVISORY ON HEAT WAVE

### **Heat Wave**

Heat wave has emerged-as-one-of-the major-weather-hazards-in-India. Heat wave-is a period of abnormally high temperatures, more than the normal maximum temperature that occurs during the pre-monsoon summer season. Heat wave season typically occurs from March to June and in some cases: even extends up to July. There has been an increasing trend of heat wave phenomenon in India over the past several years. Climate change is driving temperatures higher as well as increasing the frequency and severity of heat waves in India.

In 2018, heat wave conditions prevailed for about 3-6 days in Chandigarh (24-29 May). (Source IMD).

Extreme temperatures combined with high humidity and associated atmospheric conditions adversely affect people leading to physiological stress, loss of productivity, illness and sometimes even death Heat wave can affect human and animal health and also cause major disruption in community infrastructure such as power supply, public transport and other essential services.

The adverse impacts of heat wave can be significantly reduced by educating people on the Do's and Don'ts of Heatwave (Annexure 1) and developing a culture of reporting health issues pertaining heat wave to medical facilities in time thereby ensuring timely diagnosis and treatment.