

Health Department Guidelines For Managing Heat-Related Illness

Why in News?

Recently, the **Uttar Pradesh Health Department** has issued guidelines to all District Magistrates and Chief Medical Officers with the preparations for the **prevention and management of heat-related diseases** in the state during summer.

Key Points

- According to the <u>Indian Meteorological Department</u>, most parts of the country are likely to experience higher temperatures than usual during this summer, especially the central and northwestern parts of Uttar Pradesh.
 - Various institutions have anticipated seasonal outbreaks of diseases between March and May 2024.
 - There is a higher likelihood of <u>heatwaves</u> prevailing in the central and north-western regions of the country from March to May 2024.
- The Health Department will have inter-departmental coordination to organise an array of events to raise awareness about heat-related diseases as well as their prevention and management.
 - The department will make arrangements for cool and clean drinking water in crowded places and provide shelters for heat protection.
 - Weather forecasts and temperatures will be displayed on screens installed at crowded locations, while awareness sessions will be held on protection from heat waves in schools.
 - The Department will prioritise the training and awareness of medical officers, paramedical staff, and frontline workers, ensuring they are equipped with the skills to promptly identify and treat these diseases.
 - Sufficient availability of essential medications, intravenous fluids, ice packs, oral rehydration salts, and other necessary supplies will be ensured.
 - **Educational materials** will be distributed to **raise public awareness** about heat-related illnesses and how to prevent and manage them.

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