Rising Electricity Consumption in Rajasthan | Rajasthan | 10 May 2024

Why in News?

Recently, Increasing temperatures are leading to a **rise in electricity usage** in Rajasthan, causing concern for the **state's power sector.**

Key Points

- To meet the increasing demand, **Rajasthan buys electricity from other states at increased costs annually.**
  - With temperatures on the rise in India, failure by the energy department to make arrangements may lead to power shortages for consumers, impacting industrial output significantly.
- More than 2,450 lakh units of electricity were used in the state in April 2023. This number rose to over 2,700 lakh units in April 2024 and further increased to 2,900 lakh units in the first week of May 2024.
  - Expectations indicate an **8-10% rise in electricity consumption in 2024.**
- The state has a **total power generation capacity of over 24,000 megawatt (Mw),** around 58% comes from coal-fired power plants and around 10-12% is generated by solar plants.

Rajasthan's Digital Healthcare Access System | Rajasthan | 10 May 2024

Why in News?

The Rajasthan government is set to implement a new **integrated health management** system with **digitalisation** to provide **easy access to healthcare services.**

Key Points

- The new online system will strengthen health services and **create the facilities of electronic health records** and single window procedures.
  - The project would be completed at the earliest and the departments and agencies concerned would work with full coordination to ensure its success.
- As part of the online system, the common people and patients approaching the health facilities would get the facilities of electronic health records, **digi-health locker, freedom from queue, unified digital survey, key performance indicators (KPI)-based dashboard,** telemedicine intensive care unit, **geotagging-based hospital map**, and single window procedures for **health-related licences and no-objection certificates.**

- The agencies involved in the new system's implementation include the [National Health Mission](#), **Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation, State Health Insurance Agency** and the **Department of Information Technology.**

National Health Mission (NHM)

- It was **launched by the government of India in 2013** subsuming the **National Rural Health Mission (Launched in 2005)** and the **National Urban Health Mission (Launched in 2013).**
- The main programmatic components include Health System Strengthening in rural and urban areas for - **Reproductive-Maternal- Neonatal-Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCH+A)**, and Communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases.
- The NHM envisages achievement of universal access to equitable, affordable & quality health care services that are accountable and responsive to people's needs.

Rajasthan Medical Services Corporation (RMSCL)

- It was incorporated on **4th May, 2011** as a Public Limited Company under **The Companies Act, 1956.**
- It has been established as a centralized procurement agency for procuring generic medicines, surgical & sutures and medical equipments for the department of Medical, Health and Family welfare department, medical Education department and other departments.

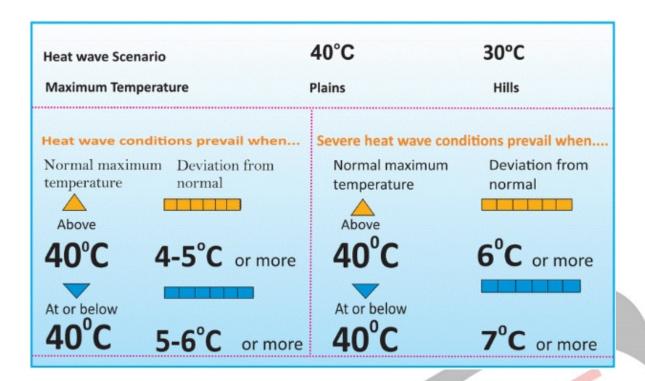# Heatwave in Rajasthan | Rajasthan | 10 May 2024

Why in News?

According to the **Indian Meteorological Department (IMD),** a [Heatwave](#) alert has been issued in **West Rajasthan** & Kerala.

Key Points

- **Strong moisture flow** is coming into the nation from the **Bay of Bengal**, due to which **thunderstorm** activity along with cloud-to-ground lightning will be increasing.
- As per IMD, a region undergoes a heatwave if the maximum temperature reaches at least **40 degrees Celsius** or higher **in plains** and at least **30 degrees Celsiu**s or more **for Hilly regions.**
  - In essence, a **heatwave** is a situation where the **air temperature poses a severe risk to human health when exposed.**

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Heat wave Scenario	40°C	30°C
Maximum Temperature	Plains	Hills

Heat wave conditions prevail when...		Severe heat wave conditions prevail when....	
Normal maximum temperature	Deviation from normal	Normal maximum temperature	Deviation from normal
▲ Above 40^0C	4-5°C or more	▲ Above 40^0C	6°C or more
▼ At or below 40^0C	5-6°C or more	▼ At or below 40^0C	7°C or more

Causes of Heat Waves

- **Global Warming:**
  - One of the **primary causes of heatwaves in India is global warming,** which refers to the long-term increase in **Earth's average temperature due to human activities such as burning fossil fuels, deforestation, and industrial activities.**
  - Global warming can result in higher temperatures and changes in weather patterns, leading to heatwaves.
- **Urbanisation**:
  - Rapid urbanisation and the growth of **concrete jungles in cities** can lead to the phenomenon known as the "**urban heat island effect.**"
  - Urban areas with **high population density, buildings, and concrete surfaces absorb and retain more heat**, leading to higher temperatures, particularly during heatwaves.
- **Sparse Pre-Monsoon Season Showers:**
  - Less moisture in many areas, leaving large parts of India arid and dry.
  - The **sudden end of pre-monsoon rain showers,** an uncommon trend in India, has contributed to the heat waves.
- **El Nino Effect:**
  - El Nino often **increases temperatures in Asia**, combined with the weather pattern to create record high temperatures.
  - Trade winds coming from South America normally blow westward towards Asia during the Southwest Monsoon and **warming of the Pacific Ocean results in weakening of these winds.**
    - Therefore, moisture and heat content get limited and results in reduction and uneven distribution of rainfall across the Indian sub-continent.