

Severe heatwave hits Jharkhand | Jharkhand | 02 May 2024

Why in News?

Severe <u>Heatwave Conditions</u> gripped parts of Jharkhand with **Baharagora in East Singhbhum district** recording a maximum temperature of **47.1 degrees Celsius.**

Key Points

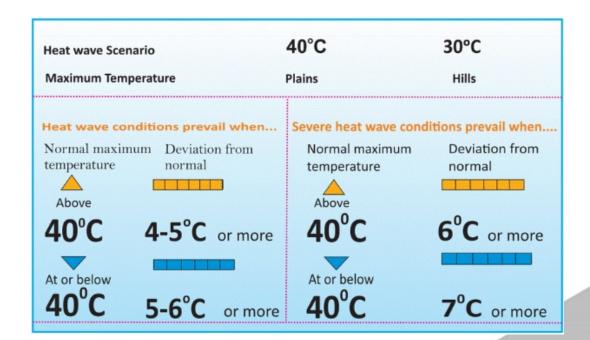
- The weather department issued an 'Orange Alert' for severe heatwave in 11 Jharkhand districts.
 - These are Sahibganj, Godda, Pakur, Dumka, Jamtara, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Bokaro, Seraikela-Kharswan, East and West Singhbhum.
- According to the Ranchi Meteorological Centre, mining activities and pollution could be one of the reasons for temperatures reaching above 47 degrees Celsius.

Heat Waves

- About:
 - Heatwaves are prolonged periods of excessively hot weather that can cause adverse impacts on human health, the environment, and the economy.

Vision

- India, being a tropical country, is particularly vulnerable to heatwaves, which have become more frequent and intense in recent years.
- IMD Criteria for Declaring Heat Wave in India:
 - Heat Wave need not be considered till the maximum temperature of a station reaches at least 40°C for Plains and at least 30°C for Hilly regions.
 - If the normal maximum temperature of a station is less than or equal to 40°C, then an increase of 5°C to 6°C from the normal temperature is considered to be heat wave condition.
 - Further, an increase of 7°C or more from the normal temperature is considered a severe heat wave condition.
 - If the normal maximum temperature of a station is more than 40°C, then an increase of 4°C to 5°C from the normal temperature is considered to be heat wave condition.
 Further, an increase of 6°C or more is considered a severe heat wave condition.
 - Additionally, if the actual maximum temperature remains 45°C or more irrespective of normal maximum temperature, a heat wave is declared.



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