



## Severe heatwave hits Jharkhand | Jharkhand | 02 May 2024

### Why in News?

Severe [Heatwave Conditions](#) 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**.
  - 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.

Heat wave Scenario	40°C	30°C	
Maximum Temperature	Plains	Hills	
<b>Heat wave conditions prevail when...</b>	<b>Severe heat wave conditions prevail when....</b>		
Normal maximum temperature	Deviation from normal	Normal maximum temperature	Deviation from normal
▲ Above	▲ Above	▲ Above	▲ Above
40°C	4-5°C or more	40°C	6°C or more
▼ At or below	▼ At or below	▼ At or below	▼ At or below
40°C	5-6°C or more	40°C	7°C or more

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