

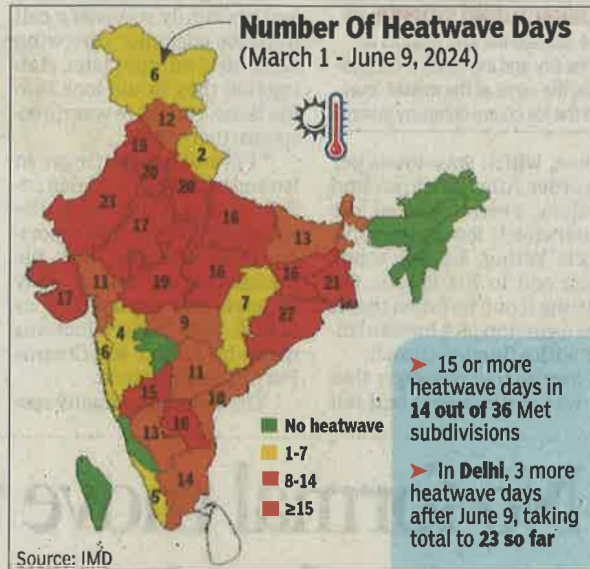
Heatwaves more than double of normal this year: IMD data

Spell Likely To Continue Into Next Week

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New Delhi: This summer, India has faced what's possibly the longest ever spell of heatwave days, with IMD data revealing that Odisha experienced the most extreme weather and topped the chart recording the highest number of such days (27), followed by western Rajasthan (23), Gangetic West Bengal (21 days), and Delhi, Haryana, Chandigarh and west UP (20 days each) during March 1-June 9.

These numbers were more than double of what these regions normally experience annually.



And, heatwaves continue to scorch many of these regions. Delhi, for instance, has seen three more heatwave days since June 9, inclu-

ding Thursday, taking the total so far to 23.

IMD on Thursday said "severe heat wave conditions" over northern parts

of India are likely to continue for 4-5 days.

Heatwaves are spells of unusually high temperatures, compared to what is normally expected over a region. Temperatures at which heatwaves are declared differ from place to place based on the historical temperatures of that region.

Data shared by IMD for the March 1-June 9 period shows that 14 of 36 meteorological subdivisions in the country have recorded more than 15 heatwave days. These subdivisions are spread across the country with east and north India the worst hit. Even the relatively cool high-altitude regions such as Himachal Pradesh reported 12 heatwave days followed by Sikkim (11), Jammu & Kashmir (6) and Uttarakhand (2).

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