

Webinar on
**“Cold Wave Precautions and
Preparedness”**



Friday,
28th January 2022
2.30 pm - 4.00 pm

Organised by

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM)

Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India

in collaboration with

**Dr. Raghunandan Singh Tolia Uttarakhand Academy of
Administration, Nainital, Uttarakhand**

ORGANIZING TEAM

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Major General Manoj Kumar Bindal, VSM
Executive Director, NIDM

Sh. Bhagwati Prasad Pandey
Director General, Dr. RSTUAoA

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Head, GMR Division, NIDM

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Joint-Director, Dr. RSTUAoA

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Assistant Professor, Dr. RSTUAoA

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Junior Consultant, GMR Division, NIDM

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1. INTRODUCTION

National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, in collaboration with Dr. Raghunandan Singh Tolia Uttarakhand Academy of Administration, Uttarakhand organised a webinar on “**Cold Waves Precautions and Preparedness**”, Friday, 28th January 2022, 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm.

A cold wave is a localised seasonal occurrence that occurs throughout the country, except in southern India. The Core Cold Wave Zone covers 17 States and Union Territories in Northern India, particularly the mountainous regions and adjacent plain areas. Northern states were and are particularly hard hit by cold wave causing life loss. In recent years, many states are affected during the cold wave. The minimum temperatures in some parts of north Indian states reach below freezing point, with rainfall and snowfall. The impact of the cold wave on human beings can lead to death or injury. An unexpected cold wave can cause frostbites, hypothermia, or other serious medical ailments. A lot of damage is caused to agriculture, animal husbandry, and wildlife. Cold-related illnesses and deaths are largely avoidable by taking certain measures.

2. OBJECTIVE

The main objectives of the webinar were to ponder, share and disseminate experiences, knowledge, information, innovations, and ideas:

- To develop better understanding about cause of cold wave occurrences, weather hazards, climatology and trends of cold wave affecting different parts of the country;
- To understand hazard, vulnerability and risk of various sectors affected by cold wave in the country;
- To strengthen early warning dissemination and communication strategy for the cold wave;
- To discuss the collaboration and strengthening mechanisms for effective implementation of cold wave preparation related activities;
- To discuss response measures of cold wave at different levels to combat any emergency situation;

- To enhance the capacity of relevant stakeholders beside communities for cold wave preparedness.

3. SUMMARY OF THE WEBINAR

Inaugural Session



Shri Prakash Chandra, Joint-Director, Dr. RSTUAoA extended his welcome to the dignitaries of the inaugural session, panellists, distinguished speakers of the technical session and to the participants of the webinar. Talking about the theme of the

webinar, Sh. Chandra said that it is timely one as we are facing adverse impacts of the weather and I hope this webinar will be beneficial for all Himalayan states and all over the India especially the northern region.

Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM during his address said that this topic is very contextual and current in terms of the impact of multi-hazards not only the COVID is prevailing these days and affecting our population but also the cold season which is still on way is affecting the humanity at large particularly in the high



altitude areas and the hills. The preparedness guidelines have been prepared by our National Disaster Management Authority for both cold waves as well as the heat waves. The heat resources used by people can sometimes trapped them into some other disasters for example there have been many instances where people have been using the coal for burning and generating heat in closed room environments where there is no ventilation or very limited ventilation available in those cases this production of carbon monoxide actually affects their health and sometimes results in the larger amount of carbon monoxide and reduction in the available oxygen for their respiration and that also causes sometimes casualties of the human beings. People need to be sensitized properly on the use of heat resources so that there is no side effect on their health.



Shri Bhagwati Prasad Pandey Director General, Dr. RSTUAoA

during his address said that the theme of today's webinar is very critical, very important issue dealing with the cold wave conditions. The severity is getting more and more every year perhaps that has something to do with the

climate change both in terms of the rising temperature and in the falling temperature. Every year we come across that a record has been broken and the mortality rate shows that it has substantially gone up in past few years. Therefore, this webinar has become all the more important and the winter is not yet done so far it's still continuing. The cold season just not impact the human beings but the entire spectrum of the ecosystem. Our livestock, agriculture, horticulture and of course the wildlife also face the adverse impact of the cold season. The extreme weather is also a cause of conflict between human and wildlife in hills as due to the severe cold certain wildlife such as leopards come down to the habitations.

Technical Session

Dr Naresh Kumar, Scientist-E, IMD

during his talk discuss the monitoring and forecast of cold wave in the country by India Metrological Department. He also discussed the cold period over the country. Providing insight on the general definition of the cold wave, the speaker said that it is suddenly



characterized by a sharp drop of air temperatures near the surface leading to extremely low values. Due to the falling temperatures generally there is a steep rise of the pressures and possibility of strengthening of the wind speed also. In general cold affect much larger area than other winter hazards. Also highlighted the IMD criteria for cold wave and cold day across the country and other initiatives of organisation related to cold wave warnings/early information dissemination.



Mr. Anil Kathait, Junior Consultant, GMR Division, NIDM discussed cold wave precaution. During recent cold wave episodes, numerous states have been impacted. In India, a cold wave has traditionally been referred to as "cold weather" and handled as a seasonal shift.

Cold waves were more of a State responsibility and were viewed as a local disaster that received minimal disaster preparedness or mitigation attention due to the occurrence of cold waves limited to certain sections of the country. Cold waves had significant effects on health, forest trees, livestock, fisheries, water supply, power supply, transportation, tourism, social activities, economy and other livelihood systems. Community should be sensitize on the precaution and preparedness for the cold waves.

4. KEY TAKEAWAYS

- We have to actually sustain our practices for safety, good health and quality of life and do not stop till our goal is achieved and goal of our national policy is zero casualty, disaster free and resilient nation.
- District disaster management centres need to be strengthened further in terms of logistics, infrastructure, manpower and other crucial things that are prerequisite for the robust DRR setup.
- The heat resources used by people can sometimes trapped them into some other disasters for example there have been many instances where people have been using the coal for burning and generating heat in closed room environments where there is no ventilation or very limited ventilation available in those cases this production of carbon monoxide actually affects their health and sometimes results in the larger amount of carbon monoxide and reduction in the available oxygen for their respiration and that also causes sometimes casualties of the human beings. People need to be sensitize properly on the use of heat resources so that there is no side effect on their health.
- Identification of susceptible locations and development of winter action plans that encompass all sectors.

- Make sure there's enough ventilation. Make sure you have a fire extinguisher on hand and that everyone in the house knows how to use it.
- Strengthening the EWS and distributing warnings to the local population and all involved officials in a timely manner.
- Create a cold-weather survival pack for your home. Include food that does not require heating or refrigeration, water, blankets, and a backup, safe way to heat your home during a power outage, in addition to the conventional basic home emergency kit.
- Remember to include your pets in your plans. If you have outside pets, make sure they are protected.

5. PARTICIPANT'S PROFILE

The webinar on “**Cold Wave Precautions and Preparedness**” was attended by 109 participants from across the country via CISCO Webex Platform.

YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/Wi0Xg3lRXz0>

6. PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Time	Dignitary/Resource Person	Title of Talk
Inaugural Session		
2:30 - 2:35	Shri Prakash Chandra Joint-Director, Dr. RSTUAoA	Welcome Address
2:35 - 2:40	Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM	Special Address
2:40 - 2:50	Shri Bhagwati Prasad Pandey Director General, Dr. RSTUAoA	Keynote Address
Technical Session		
2:50 - 3:20	Dr Naresh Kumar Scientist-E, IMD	Role of IMD for Cold Wave Preparedness
3:20 - 3:25	<i>Interactions, Discussions, Q & A session</i>	
3:25 - 3:40	Anil Kathait Junior Consultant, NIDM	Cold Wave Precaution
3:40 - 3:45	<i>Interactions, Discussions, Q & A session</i>	
Valedictory Session		
3:45- 3:55	Prof. Surya Parkash, Head, GMR Division, NIDM	Valedictory Address
3:55- 4:00	Anil Kathait Junior Consultant, NIDM	Vote of Thanks

7. POSTER



सत्यमेव जयते



Prime Minister's 10 Point Agenda on DRR: Agenda 5 & 8

Webinar on “Cold Wave Precautions and Preparedness”



Friday, 28th January 2022
02:30 pm - 04:00 pm

Patrons



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Executive Director,
NIDM



Shri Bhagwati Prasad Pandey
Director General,
Dr. RSTUAoA

Chairs



Prof. Surya Parkash
Head, GMR Division, NIDM



Shri Prakash Chandra
Joint-Director, Dr. RSTUAoA

Coordinators



Dr. Om Prakash
Associate Professor, Dr. RSTUAoA



Dr. Manju Pandey
Assistant Professor, Dr. RSTUAoA



Distinguished Speakers



Dr. Naresh Kumar
Scientist-E,
IMD



Mr. Anil Kathait
Junior Consultant,
NIDM (Coordinator)

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Administration, Uttarakhand**



<https://youtu.be/WioXg3lRXzo>

Register Here:
<https://training.nidm.gov.in/>



Website: www.nidm.gov.in



**Stay Protected
from Corona**



Wear your Mask
Properly



Follow Proper
Hand Hygiene



Maintain Social
Distancing



Get
Vaccinated

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