2017 North Indian cold wave

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| **January 2017 North India cold wave** | |
| [North India Zonal Map 14July2013.png](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:North_India_Zonal_Map_14July2013.png)  North India zonal map | |
| **Type** | [Cold wave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_wave), [avalanches](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Avalanche), [rainfall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainfall), [snowfall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snowfall) |
| **Formed** | 3 January 2017 |
| **Lowest temperature** | −12.4 °C (9.7 °F) [[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-1) |
| **Areas affected** | [North India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_India), [Kashmir Valley](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kashmir_Valley) |
|  | |

[North India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_India) was devastated by a [cold wave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_wave) during the month of January 2017. This occurrence had a severe effect on several North Indian [states](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_of_India),[[2]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-2) including [Himachal Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Himachal_Pradesh), [Jammu and Kashmir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jammu_and_Kashmir), [Punjab](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Punjab,_India), [Harayana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harayana" \o "Harayana), [Rajasthan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rajasthan),[[3]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-3) and [Uttar Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uttar_Pradesh). The lowest temperature in [Gulmarg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulmarg" \o "Gulmarg) due to the cold wave was recorded at −12.4 °C (9.7 °F).[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-4) The banks of [Dal Lake](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dal_Lake) in [Srinagar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Srinagar) froze. [Keylong](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Keylong" \o "Keylong) of Himachal Pradesh and [Kargil](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kargil" \o "Kargil) of Jammu and Kashmir witnessed low temperatures of −13.9 °C (7.0 °F) and −15.6 °C (3.9 °F) respectively. At least 40 people have died as a result of the cold front.

Several army camps in [Kashmir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kashmir) bound sectors were damaged and many people died in avalanches in Kashmir districts near the [Line of Control](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Line_of_Control) during the last few days of January 2017.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-5)

Effect[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2017_North_Indian_cold_wave&action=edit&section=1" \o "Edit section: Effect)]

The minimum temperatures in some parts of North Indian states fell below freezing, with rainfall and [snowfall](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snowfall).[[*citation needed*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed)] Parts of [Gujarat](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gujarat)[[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-6) and [Madhya Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Madhya_Pradesh) were[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-7) affected by the cold wave, with a fall in temperatures at night. Due to intense [fog](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fog) and lack of visibility, several trains running through North India were delayed and rescheduled.[[8]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-8) Seven people in [Shimla](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shimla) lost their lives due to the cold wave.[[9]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-9) Nine people died in parts of [Uttar Pradesh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uttar_Pradesh),[[10]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave" \l "cite_note-10) capital [Lucknow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucknow" \o "Lucknow) where the temperature fell to 0.1 °C (32.2 °F). Three people died due to fog related accidents in North India.[[11]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-11)

India's capital [New Delhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Delhi) witnessed minimum temperatures of 3.4 °C (38.1 °F).[[12]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-12) Several schools of [Noida](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Noida) and [Delhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Delhi) were closed, due to the severity of the [cold wave](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_wave). The [western disturbances](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Western_disturbances) which creates an upper air [cyclonic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyclonic) circulation over Jammu and Kashmir caused rainfall in [Chandigarh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chandigarh), which was recorded by [India Meteorological Department](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/India_Meteorological_Department) as the heaviest rainfall in Chandigarh in the last 22 years.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-13)

**Kashmir avalanches**[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=2017_North_Indian_cold_wave&action=edit&section=2" \o "Edit section: Kashmir avalanches)]

[](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:India_Jammu_and_Kashmir_location_map_UN_view.svg)

India Jammu and Kashmir location map, UN view

Five people including an army officer, died in an [avalanche](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_Gurez_sector_avalanche) in [Kashmir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kashmir). Four members of a family were killed in avalanches in the [Ganderbal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ganderbal" \o "Ganderbal) and [Bandipora](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bandipora" \o "Bandipora) districts of Kashmir. One army officer died due to an avalanche on an army camp at [Sonamarg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonamarg" \o "Sonamarg). Fifteen Indian soldiers died and several soldiers went missing due to three avalanches that hit the [Gurez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gurez" \o "Gurez) and [Kupwara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kupwara" \o "Kupwara) Sectors of Kashmir, Bandipora district near the [Line of Control](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Line_of_Control) on 26 January 2017.[[14]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-14)

A rescue team operated immediately to search for missing soldiers[[15]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave" \l "cite_note-15) and helped the civilians evacuate from snowfall and avalanche-prone villages of Gurez to safer areas. The rescue operations by [Indian Army](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Army), saved five army personnel trapped under snow by the avalanche that had hit the Army post in [Kupwara](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kupwara" \o "Kupwara) district. All five later succumbed to their injuries while recuperating in hospitals.[[16]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_North_Indian_cold_wave#cite_note-16) Three corpses of victims were retrieved during the rescue operations in the [Gurez](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gurez" \o "Gurez) sector.