



WEEKLY UPDATE ON NATURAL DISASTERS IN ASEAN PLUS THREE

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Cambodia

Thunderstorms severely hit Cambodia.

A thunderstorm during 17 – 18 May 2024 struck three communes in Battambang province. There was one girl killed by a lightning strike. Many houses were damaged. Earlier, the storm also hit Svay Rieng province on 16 May 2024. A huge billboard was toppled and smashed a car. The authority warned people to be careful of various natural disasters especially wind and lightning.

Sources: Khmer Times. (2024, May 17). *Car crushed as high winds hit Bavet*; Khmer Times. (2024, May 19). *Girl dies in lightning strike, as storms batter province*.

Viet Nam

Severe weather wreaked havoc Viet Nam.

A number of localities in Viet Nam were hit by downpours, gales, whirlwinds, and lightnings during 19 - 21 May 2024. There were four people in the provinces of Thanh Hoa, Thai Binh, and Long An reportedly dead by lightning strike. Meanwhile, gales and whirlwinds devastated 19 houses and more

than 900 hectares of crops in Thanh Hoa province. A flood of sand and mud triggered by heavy rains also buried vehicles, a restaurant, and a house in Binh Thuan province while Giao Long Industrial Park in Ben Tre province was inundated by floods leading to traffic congestion. Besides, hours of downpours caused serious flooding on many streets of Ho Chi Minh City. The National Steering Committee for Natural Disaster Prevention and Control requested provinces and cities across the country to stay alert with disaster forecast and warning for emergency response plans.

Sources: Viet Nam Plus. (2024, May 21). *Bad weather conditions wreak havoc on many localities*.

China

Heavy rains ravaged many parts of China.

Various cities in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region experienced heavy rains on 18 – 19 May 2024. The authorities issued a red alert for extreme rainfall. Meanwhile, residents and vehicles stranded in waist-deep floodwater in Nanning city. About 280 people in the city were forced to relocate while train services were suspended. The local government deployed emergency response personnel, and provided vehicles and equipment for flood control and disaster relief purposes.

Sources: Xinhua. (2024, May 19). *Heavy downpours lash south China's Guangxi*.

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