Thailand Annual Weather Summary, 2007

The year 2007 was one of several wet years from 1951. Above normal rainfall during summer and early rainy season and much rainfall brought by many causes during rainy season contributed to above normal annual rainfall. It was 4% above normal. Annual mean temperature in 2007 was slightly above normal.

In January and February, the weather over upper Thailand was generally cool and cold when the surge of high pressure area from China arrived but it became warmer when the prevailing wind over Thailand varied from northeast monsoon to southeasterly wind. Extreme minimum temperature was 5.6 ^{o}C at Umphang district in Tak province on February 2. From mid February, hot weather caused by the effect of heat low pressure cell over upper Thailand terminated cold season.

Hot weather continued to March and April. Monthly mean temperatures were slightly above normal with extreme maximum of 44.0 ^{o}C at Muang district in Tak province on April 25. Unseasonable rain with thunderstorms, gusty winds and hails produced by the combined effects of the confluence of southeasterly and southerly winds, the high pressure area from China and the active low pressure cell over the Gulf of Thailand in late April was intermittently reported.

Having much rainfall in May and earlier beginning of rainy season, on May 5, total rainfall in May was generally above normal and monthly mean temperature was subsequently below normal. Periodically torrential rain resulted in flash floods, especially in southern Thailand east coast where maximum daily rainfall was 199.8 mm at Muang district in Prachuap Khiri Khan province on May 1. The main causes of much rain were the tropical depression in the Gulf of Thailand that made landfall at Pathiu district in Chumphon province on May 1, the tropical cyclone “AKASH” (01B) in the Bay of Bengal that moved to Myanmar on May 15, the low pressure trough that drifted northwards from Malaysia to Thailand from the second week of May and the prevailing of southwest monsoon. Rainfall became less than normal in June and July because the low pressure trough shifted northwards to southen China. In August, below normal rainfall remained although the tropical depression that entered Thailand at Nong Khai province on August 8 had some effects on localized floods, at Si Sa Ket province on August 6 and at Kanchanaburi province on August 10. The heaviest rainfall, 220.5 mm, was registered at Phu Kradung in Loei province on August 8. Under the influences of the low pressure trough moving back to Thailand in September, the cyclonic system of tropical storm “FRANCISCO” over Hainan Island and upper Vietnam in mid September and the strengthening of southwest monsoon, distribution and amount of rain were mostly increased and flash floods were reported in some areas of northern and northeastern parts. In October, the tropical storm LEKIMA (0714) travelling to Thailand on October 4 brought very heavy rain and flash floods in many provinces during October 4-6. Furthermore, the combined effects of southwest monsoon, low pressure trough and the active low pressu cell that covered the Head Gulf of Thailand on October 11 established the new maximum daily rainfall record in some areas. Although it seemed that rainfall was abundant, an exception of below normal was experienced in central and eastern part of Thailand from August to October.

In late 2007, the weather was marked by cool and cold weather. In particular during the arrival of rather active high pressure area from China in late November, minimum temperatures in some places of Thailand were lower than the previous records. Monthly mean temperature was approximately 1 ^{o}C below normal in November while it was 1-2 ^{o}C above normal in December. Rainfall was generally decreased in upper Thailand while it still existed in southern Thailand with localized floods in early December and mid December.

Note :
1. AKASH is the name of the tropical cyclone in the Northern Indian Ocean, assigned by India
2. FRANCISCO is the name of the tropical cyclone in the western North Pacific Ocean, assigned by U.S.A.
3. LEKIMA is the name of the tropical cyclone in the western North Pacific Ocean, assigned by Vietnam.
4. Rainfall amount, temperatures and natural disasters are the preliminary information.

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