**Warning for heavy rain and lightning**

Issued by the natural hazards early warning center
At 01.30 p.m. 15 April 2020 for the period until 10.30 p.m. 15 April 2020

**For Land Areas**

**PLEASE BE AWARE:**

Thundershowers accompanied by severe lightning and heavy falls above 100 mm (within next 24 hrs) are likely to occur at several places in Western, Sabaragamuwa, Central, North-western, Uva and Southern provinces in the evening or night.

There may be temporary localized strong winds during thundershowers. General public is kindly requested to take adequate precautions to minimize damages caused by lightning activity.

**ACTION REQUIRED:**

The Department of Meteorology advises that people should:

- Seek shelter, preferably indoors and never under trees.
- Avoid open areas such as paddy fields, tea plantations and open water bodies during thunderstorms.
- Avoid using wired telephones and connected electric appliances during thunderstorms.
- Avoid using open vehicles, such as bicycles, tractors and boats etc.
- Beware of fallen trees and power lines.
- For emergency assistance contact the local disaster management authorities.

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Spatial rainfall distribution: Isolated: <25%, A few: 26-50%, Many: 51-75%, Most: 76-100%
Rainfall amount (mm): Fairly Heavy rain: 50 -100, Heavy rain: 100 – 150, Very heavy rain: 150 or more.