# Cambodia Destroys Seven Tons of Illicit Drugs in Effort to Combat Drug Trafficking



Cambodia incinerated over seven tons of illicit drugs and related ingredients on June 14, 2024. This event took place on the outskirts of Phnom Penh. The destroyed narcotics included heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, ecstasy, and ketamine, valued at $22.7 million wholesale and nearly $70 million in street value. Additionally, 3.2 tons of chemicals used for drug production were also burned.

General Meas Virith, secretary-general of the National Authority for Combating Drugs, emphasized the importance of educating the public about the dangers of drug use and trafficking to reduce future incidents. In the first five months of 2024, authorities handled more than 3,800 drug-related cases and arrested over 10,000 individuals, including foreigners.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the production and trafficking of synthetic drugs like methamphetamine are at record highs in Southeast Asia. In Cambodia alone, methamphetamine seizures have steadily increased over the past seven years, with heroin seizures doubling in 2023.