

No. 1303/2152

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations in Bangkok and has the honour to provide facts and updates on the Thailand – Cambodia border situation as follows:

# 1. Situation in Ban Nong Chan and Ban Nong Ya Kaew, Khok Sung District, Sa Kaeo Province

1.1 The presence of Cambodians in the areas of Ban Nong Chan and Ban Nong Ya Kaew, Khok Sung District, Sa Kaeo Province, Thailand, has long violated Thailand's sovereign territory, despite Thailand's repeated protests demanding that Cambodia take concrete actions to address the problem. Thailand has consistently urged Cambodia to cooperate in implementing an orderly relocation of Cambodian villagers who are unlawfully residing in these areas beyond Cambodia's claim.

1.2 It must be emphasized that the activities undertaken by the Thai authorities in the abovementioned areas, including the installation of barbed wire, are located entirely outside the area where Thailand and Cambodia hold differing views on the boundary. They are therefore exclusively and indisputably within Thailand's territory. These measures do not in any respect amount to boundary demarcation. They are practical steps designed solely aimed at ensuring the security and safety of the local population, carried out within the framework of Thailand's ordinary administration, where Thailand exercises full rights of sovereignty and are fully consistent with international law.

1.3 Despite this fact, the Cambodian side attempted to mobilize Cambodian civilians to provoke confrontation, including on 17 September 2025 at around 16.00 hrs., when a mass of Cambodian civilians, including young children, women, and monks, were deliberately brought into Thai territory to remove the barbed wire in the area of Ban Nong Ya Kaew. This compelled the Thai side to deploy riot police to manage the crowd in order to maintain law and order. The measures employed were proportionate and appropriate to the circumstances, in line with the internationally-accepted practices and human

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rights principles. Nevertheless, the Cambodian crowd continued to harass Thai officials and cause unrest in the area, while the Cambodian officials present nearby made no attempt to restrain these people. As a result, four Thai policemen were injured while performing their duties.

- 1.4 These deliberate actions constitute a serious violation of Thailand's sovereignty and domestic laws, as well as a breach of the commitments undertaken at the GBC Meetings, wherein both sides agreed not to undertake provocative actions that may escalate tensions. Furthermore, Cambodia's attempt to internationalize the issue, rather than engaging in direct consultations and communications, runs counter to the spirit of mutual understanding reached between Thailand and Cambodia made during the Special Meeting in Putrajaya and the GBC Meetings.
- 1.5 Thailand is also deeply concerned that Cambodia's incitement of violence and instrumentalization of civilians for hostile purposes by placing civilians in a precarious condition. Such action demonstrates Cambodia's failure to uphold its obligations to respect and protect the right to life and security of their own people under the relevant international human rights and humanitarian law, in particular International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War.
- 1.6 Thailand deplores that women and young children have been drawn into such confrontations. This action contravenes the protection of women against all forms of violence as described in the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).
- 1.7 In addition, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), particularly Articles 3 and 38, requires States to place primary consideration for the best interests of the child. Its Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (CRC OP1) also requires that States shall not involve children below 18 years in direct hostilities and armed conflicts. Such exploitation of children's vulnerability for political and hostile purposes by Cambodia represents a grave violation of the CRC. Such an action would also incite of hatred and violence among local population on both sides. It will stand in stark contradiction to Cambodia's duty to safeguard security, rather than endanger, their own people.

## 2. Provocative actions along the border

- 2.1 Cambodian troops have continued to test-fire at Thai troops stationed along the border as follows:
- On 23 September 2025, at approximately 13.20 hrs., Cambodian soldiers fired 3–5 rounds of small arms toward the Thai side at Sao Thong Chai Sub-district, Kantharalak District, Si Sa Ket Province.

- On 24 September 2025, at approximately 08.50 hrs., Thai troops detected 4 rounds of small arms fired toward the Thai side at Chong Krang, Ta Miang Sub-district, Phanom Dong Rak District, Surin Province.
- On 25 September 2025, at approximately 02.50 hrs., Thai troops detected an explosion from a hand grenade thrown toward a Thai position at the Sam Yaek checkpoint, Ta Miang Sub-district, Phanom Dong Rak District, Surin Province.
- Later the same day, at approximately 17.00 hrs., Cambodian soldiers fired 4 rounds of small arms toward the Thai side at Sao Thong Chai Subdistrict, Kantharalak District, Si Sa Ket Province.
- On 26 September 2025, at approximately 17.30 hrs., Cambodian troops fired 10 rounds of small arms and 3 rounds of 40 mm grenade launcher toward the Thai side at Chong An Ma, Nam Yuen District, Ubon Ratchathani Province.
- 2.2 Thai troops have also continued to detect Cambodian surveillance drones intruding into Thai territory on a daily basis across border areas, including Ta Muen Temple and Ta Kwai Temple in Surin Province, Chong Bok in Ubon Ratchathani Province, Khao Phra Viharn and Don Tuan Temple in Si Sa Ket Province, and Chong Sai Taku in Buriram Province.
- 2.3 The abovementioned Cambodian actions constitute a serious violation of Thailand's sovereignty and of the ceasefire arrangement reached at the Special Meeting in Putrajaya and reaffirmed at the GBC Meetings, under which both sides agreed to ceasefire with all types of weapons and to refrain from provocative acts that could escalate tensions.
- 2.4 The Thai side has exercised utmost restraint and has not retaliated. However, such irresponsible and hostile acts by the Cambodian side risk unnecessarily escalating tensions and increasing the possibility of miscalculation, which would be detrimental to peace and stability between the two countries.

# 3. Progress on implementing outcomes of the GBC Meetings on 7 August 2025 and 10 September 2025

- 3.1 On humanitarian demining, the two countries have established a Joint Coordinating Task Force to expedite clearance of landmines along the Thailand Cambodia border. The Thai side has already shared the first draft of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for the Task Force for the Cambodian side's consideration.
- 3.2 Thailand sincerely hopes Cambodia will cooperate within the Joint Coordinating Task Force to carry out its mandate at the earliest opportunity. This would not only safeguard the security and stability of personnel and

communities on both sides of the border, but also fulfil the obligation under the Ottawa Convention, to which both countries are State Parties.

- 3.3 On combating online scams, both sides agreed to establish a Joint Task Force and to draw up an Action Plan to tackle cross-border criminal activities, with particular emphasis on online scams and human trafficking. At present, the Thai side is awaiting the Cambodian proposal on the draft Action Plan, which will enable both sides to move forward with practical operations on the ground in an effective and timely manner.
- 3.4 Cambodia's genuine cooperation with Thailand on the above issues will be a crucial step toward reducing tensions and restoring normalcy to the border areas.

Thailand remains fully committed to resolving differences with Cambodia through existing bilateral mechanisms, in the spirit of good neighborliness, good faith, and sincerity, for the maintenance of mutual peace and the shared benefits of both countries and their peoples.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations in Bangkok the assurances of its highest consideration.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Bangkok

26 September B.E. 2568 (2025)

Timeline of Provocations along the Border and Violations of the Ceasefire Agreement by the Cambodian side since the Special General Border Committee (GBC) Meeting on 10 September 2025 in Koh Kong and Thailand's Position (11-27 September 2025)

#### TIMELINE:

#### September 11-16, 2025

<u>Drone incursions</u>: This was the most frequently reported military-related provocation during this period. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Army Area Command reported continued high – volume drone activity. For example, on September 12, the detection of Cambodian drones entering Thai airspace was reported 22 times, totally 53 aircrafts, whereas 80 drones and of 57 drones flying within Thai territory were detected on September 14 and September 15 respectively. The drone activity was concentrated in areas along the border, including near Ta Muen Thom Temple, Surin Province and Phlan Hin Paet, Si Sa Ket Province.

<u>Force movement</u>: Continued movements and consolidation of Cambodian forces were reported in certain areas, as well as the maintenance/improvement of fortified positions.

<u>Construction of structures</u>: There were reports of trenches installed by the Cambodian forces in Thai territory in Trat Province, which the Thai side demanded their dismantling.

#### **September 17, 2025**

Mobilization of Cambodians: A group of approximately 200 Cambodian civilians were mobilized by the Cambodian side near the village of Ban Nong Ya Kaew in Sa Kaeo province. These civilians were deliberately brought into Thai territory to remove the barbed wire in the area of Ban Nong Ya Kaew which was installed to ensure the security and safety of local population. Their deliberate actions constituted a serious violation of Thailand's sovereignty and domestic laws as well as the ceasefire agreement and GBC outcomes to de-escalate tensions. The Thai riot control police had no choice but to use rubber bullets and tear gas in accordance with international standards to disperse the protesters. Thailand reaffirmed that domestic Thai law was applied within Thai sovereign territory, not in overlapping areas as misrepresented by Cambodia. This is fully consistent with state sovereignty and international law.

## **September 18, 2025**

<u>Force movement and drone incursions</u>: Cambodian movements detected - 5 drones over Weerawatyothin Camp; 4 drones over Phu Makua—Phra Viharn area; 7 drones over Ta Kwai Temple; 4 drones over Chong Chom.

#### **September 19, 2025**

<u>Force movement and drone incursions</u>: Movements of Cambodian forces were detected, including drones operating in the areas of Phra Viharn area—Don Tuan (12 flights), Ta Kwai Temple (15 flights), and Chong Sai Taku (1 flight). Both sides remain stationed along their defensive positions.

## **September 20, 2025**

<u>Force movement and drone incursions</u>: Overall, movements of Cambodian forces were observed. Drones were detected in the following areas: one in Chong Bok; one in Ta Muen Temple; one in Chong Sai Taku; one in Ta Kwai Temple. Both sides continue to maintain their positions along the border. Thai forces are stationed at observation posts to monitor the situation and remain prepared to respond as necessary.

## **September 21, 2025**

<u>Force movement and drone incursions</u>: Movements by Cambodian forces, with drones spotted in the areas of Chong Bok, Ta Muen Temple, Chong Sai Taku, and Ta Kwai Temple. At present, both sides continue to maintain their positions along defensive lines. Thai forces remain stationed at observation points to monitor the movements of the opposing side and are prepared to respond in accordance with the situation.

### **September 22, 2025**

<u>Force movement and drone incursions</u>: Overall, movements of Cambodian forces were detected. Three drones were sighted in the area of Don Tuan Temple.

## **September 23, 2025**

Gunfire and Provocations: At approximately 1:20 p.m., Cambodian soldiers were detected firing 3-5 rounds of small arms toward the Thai defensive barbed wire perimeter in Sao Thong Chai Sub-district, Kantharalak District, Sisaket Province. It is believed to be a test firing aimed at gauging Thai responsive reactions. Thai forces did not return fire and continue to monitor the situation closely.

<u>Drone Incursion</u>: One Cambodian drone was detected in the Sam Tae area.

#### **September 24, 2025**

<u>Deployment of Troops and Heavy Weapons:</u> Cambodian troops reinforced their direct fire support weapons along the border area by deploying one tank to a firing position opposite Chong Ta Thao, near the Phra Viharn hill, Sa Thong Chai Subdistrict, Kantharalak District, Si Sa Ket Province, approximately 300 meters from the Thai operational line. A suspicious bus was also spotted, believed to be transporting additional troops into the area and continued fortification of certain positions was observed. These actions were assessed as preparation for military operations against Thai forces.

Gunfire and Provocations: At approximately 8:50 p.m., Thai troops on duty at Chong Krang, Ta Miang Subdistrict, Phanom Dong Rak District, Surin Province, heard a single gunshot from the east, about 150 meters away, near the Thai barbed-wire fence. Five light signals were also observed about 100 meters from the fence, followed by three small-arms shots directed at Thai troop positions. It was assessed that Cambodian soldiers were attempting to approach the barbed-wire line to probe Thai deployments and provoke Thai forces.

<u>Drone Incursions</u>: Three anti-drone systems were installed by the Cambodian side in the Chong Krang area. Two drone flights were detected over Hill 527. This was viewed as an act of espionage and a violation of the ceasefire.

#### **September 25, 2025**

Grenade Attack: At 02:50 a.m., Thai troops at the Sam Yaek checkpoint, Ta Miang Subdistrict, Phanom Dong Rak District, Surin Province, heard an explosion from the south, about 150 meters away, near the Thai barbed-wire fence. It was assessed as a hand grenade thrown toward Thai positions in order to test Thai troop deployments and provoke a response. Thai forces did not retaliate and suffered no casualties, remaining firmly committed to restraint and prudence to prevent escalation into greater violence.

<u>Gunfire and Provocations</u>: At approximately 5 p.m., Cambodian soldiers fired 4 rounds of small arms toward the Thai side at Sao Thong Chai Sub-district, Kantharalak District, Si Sa Ket Province.

#### **September 26, 2025**

Grenade Attack and Gunfire: At approximately 5.30 p.m., Cambodian troops fired 10 rounds of small arms and 3 rounds of 40 mm grenade launcher toward the Thai side at Chong An Ma, Nam Yuen District, Ubon Ratchathani Province.

<u>Drone incursions</u>: Movements of Cambodian forces were detected, with two drones spotted over the Ta Kwai Temple area and one over the Ta Muen Temple area.

## **September 27, 2025**

At approximately 12:02 p.m., the Cambodian side fired war weapons into Thai territory from the area of Hill 677 toward Hill 600 and Hill 527, which are located in the vicinity of Chong An Ma area. Additionally, there was periodic use of small arms fire before the situation subsided. Currently, both sides continue to maintain a close military presence.

Later in the afternoon, the Thai side was notified by Cambodia that the Cambodian Interim Observer Team (IOT) would visit the Chong An Ma area. The 2nd Army Area assessed this as an attempt by Cambodia to create conditions and provoke an incident timed to coincide with the IOT's visit – a tactic repeatedly used by Cambodia in the past and again employed in this instance.

#### THAILAND'S POSITION:

These abovementioned Cambodian actions constitute a serious violation of Thailand's sovereignty and of the ceasefire agreements reached at the Special Meeting in Putrajaya and reaffirmed at the General Border Committee (GBC) as well as Regional Border Committee (RBC) meetings, under which both sides agreed to ceasefire with all types of weapons and to refrain from provocative acts that could escalate tensions. These actions are part of a systematic and staged attempt by the Cambodian side to compel Thailand to respond in defense of its sovereignty and territorial integrity. Rather than seeking peaceful resolution through existing bilateral mechanisms, the Cambodian side intends to internationalize the situation and cultivate an international narrative that wrongly portrays Thailand as the aggressor and Cambodia as the victim.

The current situation is a clear indication that Cambodia lacks sincerity and good faith in the peaceful dialogue agreed upon by both sides. Such irresponsible and hostile acts by the Cambodian side risk unnecessarily escalating tensions and increasing the possibility of miscalculation, which would be detrimental to peace and stability between the two countries. Despite this, Thailand has been exercising the utmost restraint and remains committed to a peaceful approach but is prepared to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as safeguard its people to the fullest extent possible.

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Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand 27 September 2025