

PM BROKERS THAILAND, CAMBODIA CEASEFIRE

Immediate truce to be followed by meeting with regional military commanders today

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CAMBODIA and Thailand have agreed to an immediate and unconditional ceasefire.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced the breakthrough following a special consultation meeting hosted in Putrajaya, involving Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet and acting Thai Prime Minister Phumtham Wechayachai.

Anwar chaired the meeting in his capacity as Asean chair.

"Both parties have expressed their commitment and willingness to implement an immediate ceasefire and return to normalcy.

"The ceasefire will take effect unconditionally from midnight (local time) on July 28.

"This is a vital first step towards de-escalation and the restoration of peace and security," Anwar said at a joint press conference yesterday.

Also present were United States

Ambassador to Malaysia Edgard D. Kagan and Chinese Ambassador to Malaysia Ouyang Yujing.

Anwar added that an informal meeting between regional military commanders would take place at 7am today.

This will involve zones one and two on the Thai side, and zones four and five on the Cambodian side.

"This will be followed by meetings between defence attachés, led by the Asean Chair, subject to the agreement of both parties.

"A meeting of the General Border Committee (GBC) will also be held on Aug 4, hosted by Cambodia," he said.

As Asean Chair, Malaysia stands ready to coordinate an observer team to monitor and verify implementation of the ceasefire.

Anwar said consultations would also be held with other Asean member states to ensure regional participation in the observation effort.

"Both parties have agreed to resume direct communication between their prime ministers, foreign ministers and defence ministers.

"The foreign and defence ministers of Malaysia, Cambodia and

Thailand have been instructed to establish a detailed mechanism for the implementation, verification and reporting of the ceasefire.

"This mechanism will serve as the foundation for lasting peace and accountability."

Anwar also said that US President Donald Trump had been in contact

with both the Cambodian and Thai leaders, urging a peaceful resolution to the crisis.

Meanwhile, China has remained in close dialogue with all three countries and other relevant parties, working actively to promote peace and a ceasefire.

"The meeting reaffirms the shared resolve of Malaysia, Cambodia and Thailand to uphold the principles of international law, peaceful coexis-

tence, and multilateral cooperation in pursuit of a just and enduring resolution," Anwar said.

Tensions escalated after a clash between Cambodian and Thai troops in the Preah Vihear area on May 28.

The two Asean member states have been embroiled in a decades-long dispute over their 817km border.

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DATUK SERI ANWAR IBRAHIM

Prime minister