

**Observers Needed On Thai-Cambodian Border: Thailand  
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BANGKOK, Aug 22 (Bernama) -- Thai Defence Minister General Yutthasak Sasiprapa says Thailand is ready to observe the provisional demilitarised zone order of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on July 18 by withdrawing its troops from the disputed area near the Preah Vihear temple.

He underlines that third-party observers are needed along the Thai-Cambodian border to monitor the disputed area, Thai News Agency (TNA) reports.

Yutthasak said on Monday after consulting with local military commanders that he believed that third-party observers could be necessary as witnesses of any border incident occurring in the future.

He stressed that the arrival of observers would not interfere in Thailand's internal affairs, saying they are duty-bound only to act in compliance with the ICJ's provisional order.

The defence minister said the Thai-Cambodian Regional Border Committee (RBC) would convene in Nakhon Ratchasima province on Tuesday to discuss troop withdrawal terms for both countries as defined by the ICJ, among 14 other issues.

After the RBC meeting, he said, Thai secretarial officials of the GBC would meet their Cambodian counterparts to work on a framework for the Thai-Cambodian General Border Committee (GBC) meeting, specifically on creating joint border checkpoints and facilitating the entry of third-party observers.

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