



Statement of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
Condemning the Attack on the Buketa Sami Checkpoint,
Ra-ngae District, Narathiwat Province

The National Human Rights Commission of Thailand (NHRCT) strongly condemns the brutal attack carried out on the evening of 22 July 2026, in which an armed group opened fire and threw pipe bombs at the Buketa Sami checkpoint in Ban Talat Tanyongmat, Ra-ngae District, Narathiwat Province. This tragic incident claimed the lives of five officers who were on duty protecting local residents, and injured six civilians, including two children aged three and ten.

Such deliberate acts of violence constitute a grave crime. No ideology, political objective, or conflict can ever justify the taking of human lives. The right to life is a fundamental and inalienable right that must never be arbitrarily deprived. The State bears a core obligation to respect and protect the lives of its people—a right firmly guaranteed under Section 28 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand B.E. 2560 (2017) and Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), to which Thailand is a State party.

The NHRCT is deeply distressed by the injuries inflicted upon innocent children. Every child has an inherent right to survival, development, and absolute protection from all forms of violence, as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), by which Thailand is legally bound. The NHRCT emphasizes that violence does not discriminate based on religion or ethnicity; those who suffer the pain and loss are all fellow members of the local community.

The NHRCT extends its deepest condolences to the families of the officers who lost their lives, and wishes all injured civilians and children a full and speedy recovery. Furthermore, the NHRCT calls upon relevant State agencies to ensure that all victims and their families receive fair, comprehensive, and timely remedy and assistance.

We urge authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice swiftly while maintaining robust measures to ensure public safety. In doing so, officials must execute their duties with strict adherence to fairness and respect for human dignity, avoiding any stigmatization or suspicion toward specific communities. Such a principled approach is vital to restoring lasting peace and transforming the southern border provinces into a genuinely safe environment for everyone.

National Human Rights Commission of Thailand

23 July 2026