

Abstract

This study aims at gaining insights into the SBPPBC 's perception of southern violence, especially their underlying assumptions by interviewing the SBPPBC commander, the head of department and the authority in the field as well as examining the related document from 4 October 2004 to 31 May 2005. It is believed that information elicited from such an in-depth interview and investigation may shed light on the classify between its policy and implementation. In addition, such a practice might contributed on understanding why measures implemented by the Thai state cannot generate trust among people in the southern border provinces.

The study indicates that even though the policy introduced by the SBPPBC attempts to involve the local public in dealing with the problem and addressing their needs, it fails to satisfy their needs overcome bringing the policy, project and plan into practice is forced by the centralized structure of the Thai state.

Besides, the research outcome reveals that the most important problem, according the SBPPBC, is the separatists. As such, the SBPPBC considers the southern violence as the act against the Thai state which is threatening state security. Nonetheless, in order to cope with such a problem, the Thai state thus a set of explanation that uses separatists 'violence against the innocent well as officer as justification for the use of force.

This study maintains that the Thai state 's formulation of the southern violence problem is beads on the centralized state framework without taking into account the specific local context. As a result, there is a lack of people 's trust in state protection which continues to be an important part of the southern problem.