

11th November 2009

**Suvarnabhumi Airport's nearby residents protest against the delay of compensation from AOT**

Flg. Officer Narongchai Tanadchangsaeng, Deputy General Manager of Suvarnabhumi Airport (Operations Line), disclosed that on Sunday 8th November 2009, around 200 nearby residents gathered at 9.30 am, by Entrance 3 of the Departure Hall (4th Fl.), to protest against the delay in compensation from Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited (AOT) to the residents affected by the pollution noise.

Mr. Narongchai explained further that since Samut Prakan District Court's earlier ruling to dismiss the lawsuit, on the grounds that the residents knew they are at risk but went ahead with the construction nonetheless, AOT still sees fit to proceed with the goodwill policy to pay the compensation to help the residents affected by the operations at Suvarnabhumi Airport. However, AOT's Board of Directors has decided to postpone the payment of the compensation until it is clear that the goodwill policy will not violate any laws, by going against the ruling of the District Court. AOT has seek consultation from the Office of the Attorney General, which the response on the 27th October 2009 was that it is under AOT's discretion on how to proceed and thus, passed on the advice of the consultation to the Minister of Transportation to decide on consequent proceedings. Subsequently, the Ministry reported the findings to the Cabinet on the 10th November 2009, and the Cabinet has concluded that AOT should help the affected residents regardless of the court ruling.

Remark: The protesters left Suvarnabhumi Airport at around 10.00 pm (on Sunday the 8th November 2009).

\*\*\*\*\*