

AOT and Central Village conflict

On August 22, 2019, Airports of Thailand (AOT) had blocked the entrance of Central Village, a luxury outlet near Suvarnabhumi Airport developed by Central Pattana Plc (CPN), which is scheduled to open on this 31st of August. AOT said that this project of CNP violates the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) regulations. The airport operator has warned that the 184-rai luxury mall development could cause traffic congestion on roads to Suvarnabhumi and that lighting in the area poses an aviation risk to pilots. It also alleges the developer lacked proper authorization. AOT also stated that CPN unlawfully built the entrance AOT-claimed land on Highway No.370 which is a road that connects Bang Na-Trat Road to Suvarnabhumi airport.

However, the chief executive of Central Pattana said that they had legally developed the project over the past five years and had legitimate permission for the construction, especially for three main issues. Firstly, the land used for entrance and exit of Central Village is legally accessed. Secondly, CPN has strictly followed the town plan. Lastly, the company already has legal permission from the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) to construct the Central village. Moreover, CAAT has denied that Central Village risks violating International Civil Aviation Organisation regulations.

CPN filed a petition with the court last Friday (August,23) met again this Friday (August, 30) and handed down the ruling. The ruling is the Central Administrative Court has granted it an injunction and ordered the removal of obstacles blocking access to Central Village, allowing it to open the luxury outlet on Saturday (August,31) as planned.

“The new mall will open its doors at 10.39am on Saturday as planned,” President and CEO Preecha Ekkunagul said.

Preecha Ekkunagul also said the company, as well as 150 tenant shops and more than 1,000 employees, thanked the court and media to help create justice.

Reference

Bangkok Post. (2019, August 28). CPN insists Central Village project has all legal clearances. Retrieved from

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