Airports of Thailand battered by COVID-19 crisis in Q3

Airports of Thailand has reported a third-quarter loss of Bt2.96 billion (US\$95 million) versus a profit of Bt5.89 billion (US\$190 million) a year earlier as the COVID-19 travel restrictions impacted revenues and passenger numbers.

The state-owned operator runs six airports in the country, including Bangkok Suvarnabhumi.

The third-quarter operating performance decreased by Bt8.9 billion (US\$287 million) or 150% compared to the same period last year which showed net profit.

For the third quarter ended June 30, 2020, non-aeronautical revenue fell to Bt1.1 billion (US\$35.4 million) versus Bt6.8 billion (US\$219 million) in the prior-year period.

For the nine months, non-aeronautical revenue stood at Bt13.4 billion (US\$431.5 million) against Bt21.1 billion (US\$680 million) last time.

For the nine-month period, air traffic volume from the six airports totaled 438,840 flights, a 35.17% decrease compared to the same period last year. The figure comprised 232,655 international flights and 206,185 domestic flights.

The total number of passengers was 65.15 million, a 39.6% decrease year-on-year, comprising 37.29 million international passengers and 27.86 million domestic passengers.

AOT has guidelines to assist operators and airlines affected by the COVID-19. On July 29, a resolution was passed by the board of directors to extend the payments to 12 months from six months granted earlier.