

Seventeenth Lok Sabha

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Title: Regarding start of several flights from Belgaum.

**SHRIMATI MANGAL SURESH ANGADI (BELGAUM):** Sir, Belgaum airport in the State of Karnataka has the distinction of being one of the oldest airports in the State, having been established and operated since pre-Independence era.

The city is educationally forward with the establishment of the Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) and Rani Channamma University (RCU). Besides having several engineering colleges, medical and dental colleges, the city is industrially forward too.

It has often been the persistent demand of the Constituency residents for the start of daily flight services on routes: (1) Belagavi-Bangalore (morning flight), (2) Belagavi-Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), (3) Belagavi-Darbhanga-Gaya (Bihar), (4) Belagavi-Shirdi (Maharashtra), and (5) Belagavi-Varanasi with stress for the start of cargo services too.

The potential for further growth of the IT and BT Companies herein is exponential and the city is also a hub of industrial activities. Besides, many people from North Karnataka visit the holy shrines situated in North India frequently.

Belagavi airport has been chosen under UDAN Phase-3 and more than thirteen air services are already found operational. Hence, I request the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to please look into the matter towards the early start of the above flight services on the said routes along with the start of cargo services. In this regard, I sincerely thank our hon. Prime Minister and hon. Civil Aviation Minister. Thank you.