

## **Regarding need for Establishment of an airport in Udupi district, Karnataka-laid**

**SHRI KOTA SRINIVASA POOJARY (UDUPI CHIKMAGALUR):** UDUPI, one of the Coastal districts in the State of Karnataka is a major link in terms of tourism, fisheries and industry. It has been requested that an additional airport be established on Government land already purchased in Udupi district, as Mangaluru International Airport has limited scope for expansion. Udupi District possesses approximately 1,000 acres of available land that is ideally suited for airport development. The terrain is largely flat and free from major obstacles, enabling the construction of runways capable of handling large international aircraft safely and efficiently. At present, Coastal Karnataka region is dependent on Mangalore International Airport, which offers limited international connectivity, primarily restricted to a small number of destinations such as Dubai due to its table top in nature. I would like to bring it to the notice of Government for strengthening global and domestic connectivity for Coastal Karnataka; boost to tourism, including spiritual, medical and educational tourism; Generate of employment opportunities; attract industrial and foreign investment; and balanced regional development and reduced congestion at existing airport at Mangaluru. In view of the above facts, the matter merits urgent consideration of the Government outlining its position and future roadmap.