

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO : 2099
(TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 20th March 2023)**

FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA

2099. SHRI IRANNA KADADI

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-

- (a) the details of the airports selected/proposed under UDAN Scheme for domestic travel in Karnataka;
- (b) the details of airports which are ready to be developed under the UDAN Scheme in Karnataka;
- (c) whether Government is aware that flights from Belgavi Airport have been suspended since the last few months; and
- (d) whether Government plans to extend the UDAN Scheme for Belgavi Airport and restart operations and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION

(GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD))

(a) to (d): Bidar, Mysore, Vidyanagar, Hubli, Kalaburgi, Belgavi, Shivamogga, Karwar and Vijayapura, have been identified in the State of Karnataka for the operation of UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) flights.

Bidar, Mysore, Vidyanagar, Hubli, Kalaburgi and Belgavi, Airports have already been operationalised under UDAN. Shivamogga, Vijayapura and Hassan green field Airports belong to the State Government of Karnataka. The Selected Airline Operators have operationalised UDAN flights from the airports in Karnataka connecting various cities namely Chennai, Hyderabad, Goa, Kolhapur, Kannur, Tirupati, Hindon, Darbhanga, Ahmedabad, Cochin, Prayagraj, Pune, Gwalior, Mumbai, Indore, Kadappa, Surat, Nashik, Jodhpur, Agra, Jamnagar, Kurnool and Nagpur.

Bellary, Kolar and Kushalnagara appear in the list of unserved airports under the UDAN Scheme document, for the State of Karnataka.

Selected Airline Operator (SAO), M/s SpiceJet discontinued the operations under UDAN from Belgavi after completion of 3 years tenure. However, M/s Ghodawat

Enterprises Pvt. Ltd. (M/s Star Air) is presently operational even after completion of 3 years tenure as non-UDAN route. M/s Star Air was also awarded UDAN routes 'Belgaum-Nasik-Belgaum' that commenced flight operations on 25.01.2021 and is temporarily discontinued by the SAO due to operational reasons. M/s Trujet commenced UDAN routes connecting Belagavi to Mysore on 17.01.2020 and has been discontinued due to airline's internal issues. M/s Alliance Air commenced UDAN routes connecting Belagavi to Pune on 15.05.2019 and has been discontinued after completion of 3 years tenure. Presently, any commercial airline can start flight operations on the non-exclusivity routes, as per their commercial viability. M/s Indigo has been operating commercial flights connecting Belagavi to Hyderabad and Bengaluru.

UDAN is a demand-driven scheme. Selection of airlines is done through a transparent e-bidding process under UDAN. Interested airlines undertake due diligence of particular route and based on their assessment of demand/airstrips on particular routes before submitting their proposals at the time of bidding under UDAN. In future rounds of bidding, if any airline bids for connecting these airports in Karnataka to other domestic destinations in the country, the same shall be considered for the award as per the provisions of UDAN scheme document.
