

## **AIRPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

### **Press Brief**

#### **Upgraded Belagavi Airport inaugurated: Moving towards a smarter future**

**Belagavi, 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017:** The upgraded Belagavi Airport was inaugurated by Shri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister of Karnataka and Shri P. Ashok GajapathiRaju, Union Minister for Civil Aviation in the august presence of Shri Ananth Kumar, Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs; Shri R.V. Deshpande, Minister for Large & Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development, Govt. of Karnataka; D.K. Shivakumar, Minister of Energy and Power, Government of Karnataka, Shri Ramesh L. Jarakiholi, Minister for Co-operation and Belagavi District Incharge Minister; Shri Suresh C. Angadi, Member of Parliament (LokSabha); Dr. Prabhakar Kore, Member of Parliament (RajyaSabha); Shri Sanjay B. Patil, Member of Karnataka Legislative Assembly and Smt. Sanjyot Bandekar, Mayor, Belagavi City Corporation as the guests of honour.

Belagavi is the second capital of Govt. of Karnataka having Suvarna Vidhana Soudha for the winter sessions of state's Legislative Assembly. Nestled in the foothills of the Western Ghats, Belagavi enjoys a cool, salubrious climate and is surrounded by natural beauty in the form of rivers, hills and dense evergreen forests. The city and its vicinity is home to popular tourist destinations like Kamala Basti Fort, Kapileshwar Temple, Sidheshwar Temple, Ramtirth Waterfalls and Kittur Fort etc.

Belagavi is 502 km from Bengaluru and 200 km from Goa Airport. The city is one of the 20 cities selected in the first phase, for development as a smart city under the Government of India's Smart Cities Mission.

The New Terminal, a centrally air-conditioned building, with an area of 3,600 sqm has a capacity to handle 300 peak hour passengers at a time. It has all essential passenger friendly amenities and conveniences and is provided with CUTE-enabled Check-in

Counters, Baggage Conveyors, Elevator, Public Address System, Fire Fighting & Fire Alarm System, Flight Information Display System (FIDS), CCTV, Baggage scanners and Car parking etc.

While inaugurating the Upgraded Terminal Building, Shri P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister of Civil Aviation said, “Belagavi is an important City in the state of Karnataka. With the Upgraded Airport, the City is all set to cater to more air passengers from the region. Since Belagavi is amongst the first 20 cities being transformed into Smart Cities, this was a much needed development.”

Commenting on the Upgraded Belagavi Airport, Shri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister, Karnataka said, “It is a matter of pride for all of us that Belagavi is on the path of being developed into a Smart City, this Upgraded Airport will play an important role in that transformation. The Airport building is well attuned to the future’s growth and requirements.”

Addressing the audience, Shri R.V. Deshpande, Minister for Large & Medium Industries and Infrastructure Development, Govt. of Karnataka; appreciated the efforts put in by Team AAI in upgrading of Belagavi airport which is equipped with all passenger friendly amenities.

The Upgraded Terminal Building has many green features like double Insulated Roofing system, provision of sky light system for energy savings, part LED lighting, Low heat gain glazing, energy efficient chillers, usage of fly ash bricks, sewage treatment plant, re-use of treated water for horticulture purposes, Variable Frequency Drive high capacity motors, all the green features aptly seconding the Government’s initiatives towards ‘Green India.’

At present, Belagavi Airport has two daily flights connecting Bengaluru and Mumbai Airports with Q-400 type of aircraft. Belagavi Airport handled close to 1 lakh passengers during the year 2016-17.

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Shri Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju, Union Minister for Civil Aviation and Shri Ananth Kumar, Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs and other Dignitaries unveiling the plaque during the inauguration of upgraded Belagavi Airport at Belagavi, Karnataka