

**Title: Need to declare Udupi in South Karnataka as an independent district Telecom Centre - Laid.**

**SHRI VINAY KUMAR SORAKE (UDUPI) :** My district and constituency Udupi in South Karnataka has made rapid strides in the development of telecom services. Since the bifurcation of the erstwhile Dakshin Kannada district into separate districts of Mangalore and Udupi, district offices of many public utilities are still functioning at Mangalore. Thus Udupi is still covered under the District Telecom offices operating from Mangalore.

Udupi district has many important commercial, pilgrimages and education centers and attracts a large number of tourists. Manipal is considered to be the nerve centre of medical education, medicare and banking.

Udupi has grown big enough in telecom facility density to aspire for an independent district telecom authority divested from the jurisdiction of the existing Mangalore District Telecom set-up. I urge upon the Centre to recognize my district's claim to be made an independent District Telecom authority by virtue of its growth record in telecom field.