**National of Assembly**

**Question No: 2037**

**2037. Mr M S F de Freitas (DA) to ask the Minister of Transport:**

What (a) plans are in place to (i) have the South African airspace open and (ii) allow additional airlines to operate, (b) airlines will be involved, (c) routes will be involved and (d) are the respective time frames in each case? NW2599E

**REPLY**

What (a) plans are in place to

1. have the South African airspace open and

**Yes, the South African Airspace is open**

1. (ii) allow additional airlines to operate,

**We currently have twelve (12) Scheduled operations in South Africa, CLASS I**

**(1.) Mango,**

**(2.) SA Airlink,**

**(3) Cobra Airlines,**

**(4.) Safair Operations,**

**(5) FlygoAir Ltd,**

**(6.) Cemair**

**(7) Graphyon Airlines SA**

**(8.) Magestic Air MEGA and out of the 12 the 04 Airlines are on Provisional liquidation,**

**(1.) SAA;**

**(2.) SA Express;**

**(3.) Kulula Comair/ British Airways and;**

**(4.) Fly Blue Crane.**

**The Domestic Airspace is South Africa is fully opened to ensure that South African Domestic market gains a traction before we can allow any Foreign Airlines comes.**

(b) airlines will be involved,

(c) routes will be involved and

**The Domestic Market is not route based, it is deregulated and any person who is licensed by notification to Council they are then allowed to service any point of Airport in South Africa,**

(d) are the respective time frames in each case?

**There are no specific timelines.**

**What (a) plans**

The Government has post COVID plans in place available as and when the Health Departments advise on the balancing of the COVID curve by South African to allow the opening of the Airspace.

The South African Airspace is still not opened for the International flight. The Current flights that are being conducted by International Airlines for Humanitarian, repatriation and Evacuation purposes.

As you may be aware under Lookdown Level 3 the Minister of Home Affairs proclaimed under the Disaster Management Act that South African are permitted to travel outside of the Republic for only three purposes, WORK, STUDY and Medical Reasons.