

Title of research project: **“Potential and Prospects for Tourism Development in Nashik District of Maharashtra.”**

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work has progressed : **Dept of Geography, M. S. G. College,
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Report of the work done : **Completed and Submitted**

SUMMARY:

Tourism is considered as one of the world's largest industry. It is also considered as foreign exchange earning industry without any smoke or pollution. The idea of taking annual holidays for rest and entertainment away from the home began in the 18th Century with the industrial development and urbanization. This activity, which adds to the national income of the country, is tourism or tourist industry. Thus without exchanging commodities, there is exchange of money, ideas, thoughts and services among people which leads to tourism.

Nashik district is one of the important and unique districts not only in Maharashtra but also in India with wide geographical variations within its topography with regard to natural as well as cultural resources and touristic attraction. The scenic beauty of landscapes in the Sahyadri mountain range, the archaeological and historical monuments, caves, religious centres, bird sanctuary, flora and fauna, hill resorts, pleasant climate, orchards of grapes, fairs and festivals, the life style of local people provide a beautiful attraction for the tourists and lures them to visit this region.

The conceptual framework of the phenomenon of tourism, evolution of tourism, geographical components of tourism, motivation of tourism, types of tourism, development of tourism in India and Maharashtra has been studied. The physical determinants like location, physiography, drainage system, climate, waterbodies, vegetations and demographic pattern in the study area are discussed in the project.

Tourism largely depends on the natural and cultural resources of destinations and attraction of tourists. The scenic beauty of landscapes in the Sahyadri mountain range, the archaeological and historical monuments, caves, religious centres, bird sanctuary, flora and fauna, hill resorts, pleasant climate, orchards of grapes, fairs and festivals, the life style of local people provide a beautiful attraction for the tourists and lures them to visit this region.

An attempt has been made to identify the tourism resource potential and assess the resource potential of tourism by fixing criteria for resource analysis in the district.

An application of Remote sensing & GIS for tourism development in North western part of Baglan tahsil of Nashik district has been made.

The planning at different tourist interest places in the district. The project is summarized with meaningful and viable suggestions for tourism development in the Nashik district.

Accommodation is a basic component of tourism sector. The development of tourism depends on good quality accommodation facilities. The problem regarding accommodation must be solved by the construction of hotels, youth hostels, holiday resorts, tourist villages, dharmshalas, dormitories and private loggings to accommodate different types of the tourist. Department of tourism of state government and local authorities would have to come forward to construct the accommodation units at various tourist centres viz. at Igatpuri, Nashik, Trimbakeshwar, Nandur-Madhyameshwar, Chandvad, Salher, Peint and Surgana etc. To improve the condition of hotel and restaurants. The staff worked in accommodation services should be trained.

To promote and develop the tourism in the district, there is an urgent need for improvement of transport facilities and equipments.

Tourism development has been affected by seasonality. The different type of facilities should be provided at every tourist places in the countryside. The cultural attraction of tribal people who lived in remote village should also receive emphasis. The sports facilities should developed during the slack-season. Seminars and conferences, package tours and commercial fairs should be encouraged and organised during the off season at tourist center.

There are four major circuits and two minor circuits of tourist development located in Nashik district. These consists of three types of tourist center viz, developed, developing and potential center according to the influx of tourist, resource availability and other outstanding features, Comprehensive planning of different tourist center has been given under the following complexes in the Nashik district.

The objectives are achieved in following manner:

1) In North East part of Nashik District several Natural Tourist Places are available. Such as Mangi-Tungi, Salher Fort, Mulher Fort, Hargad Fort, Haranbari Dam, Davalshah Baba Shrine etc. All these tourist places are having natural beauty. The places like Mangi-Tungi and Davalshah Baba Shrine has the religious importance too. The Salher Fort and Mulher Fort have the historical importance also.

2) During field visits of the tourist places several points are covered. Most of the places in the study area do not have much infrastructural facilities. These places do not have even proper road transport facilities, medical facilities.

3) There is no system to collect data about the visits of the tourist in the study area. In the collection of primary data at the time of field visits, tourists were interviewed along with the local people. By this information we can conclude that the tourist flow is not observed in all places. The places like Mangi-Tungi and Davalshah Baba bears religious importance so many pilgrims visits this places on certain occasions.

4) The functional and behavioural aspects of tourists have been studied. The assessment of was carried out on the basis of aesthetic emotions, associational reactions and utility preferences. The final resulting resource value of a touristic feature was determined by averaging the different pulling forces of the two components i.e. tourist interests and preferences means *demand* and availability of resource potential means *supply*. By using the formula formulated by Ferrario

$$I = A + B/2$$

5) The role of tourist agencies i.e. Govt. and private sector were analysed. Department of tourism of state government and local authorities would have to come forward to construct the accommodation units at various tourist centres viz. at Igatpuri, Nashik, Trimbakeshwar, Nandur-Madhyameshwar, Chandvad, Salher, Peint and Surgana etc. To improve the condition of hotel and restaurants. The staff worked in accommodation services should be trained.

To suggest comprehensive measures for future planning of tourism development in the study region. The Planning for tourism development in the study region has been suggested on the following parameters: Assessment of tourist demand and Supply, Establishing Objectives, Basic infrastructure, Financial planning, Human resources planning, Administrative structure, Marketing and promotion and Time factor and monitoring process.

The present study is undertaken to analyse the resource potentialities for tourism development of the Nashik district. The study has a special significance for government, its agencies and other organizations concerned with policy making and planning and

development preserving natural and cultural resources, assessing impacts of developments and management and control system.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY:

The present study will be immensely useful for the government, local bodies and policy makers to increase tourism activities in the study area. Members of the society have been involved while collection of data interviewing and questionnaire. This involvement of the society to the present project will increase awareness among them regarding the increase of tourism. The stakeholders like tourists, local people, hotels, forest department, government and others will equally benefited by applying the suggestions made in the project. Remote sensing and GIS are the best tools to study the physical features of the study area. These tools provides the detailed and reliable data of the physical features of the study area. Such techniques should be used in future to develop the tourist spots. Necessary suggestions and recommendations are made to the government, local bodies, society, stake holders to improve the tourism activity. If the planning and suggestions made in the project are utilized properly the outcome of the results will measured from the optimum increase of tourism.