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## DISCUSSING ABOUT THE CONCEPT OF TOURISM

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### ABSTRACT

*Tourism has a strong relevance to economic development. It is a labour intensive service industry, which can create direct as well as indirect income from tourist expenditure by providing tourist-goods and services. It is a powerful tool of earning foreign exchange. It is an important source for generating tourism revenue. The tax income to the government from tourism sector may be direct or indirect; viz. entertainment tax, property tax on accommodation, service tax and luxury tax are the benefits accrued to the state revenue. Most of the developing countries are facing problems of unemployment and underemployment. Tourism industry has a great capacity to generate large scale employment opportunities for the educated and uneducated people. The development of tourism provides better infrastructure like transportation, accommodation, telecommunications, road, airport, water and power etc. The government and private participation are trying to develop the most needed infrastructure for the promotion of tourist centers.*

**Keywords:** - Tourism, Tourist, Industry, World, Employment.

### I. INTRODUCTION

Tourism is one of the biggest and fastest growing Industries in the world. It helps to improve the standard of living of the local people and also helps to promote local arts and crafts. Tourism plays a key role in socio-economic progress through creation of jobs, enterprises, infrastructure and revenue earning. The planning commission has identified tourism as the second largest sector in the country in providing employment opportunity for low skilled people. According to the Economic

Survey 2011-2012, the sector has provided 6-7 percent of the world's total jobs directly and millions of more indirectly through the multiplier effects as per the UNWTO. It helps to promote national integration and worldwide understanding. Some countries like Switzerland, Singapore and Hong Kong have tourism based economy. India is one of the popular tourist destinations in the world. It has beautiful nature, water bodies and mountain range. And overall its friendly charming people make India as tourist-paradise. Tourists have always travelled to distant part of the world to see nature, ancient monuments, culture, arts and craft and to test various cuisine types.

## **II. MEANING OF TOURISM**

The term tourism is related to „tour“ and it is derived from Latin word „*tornos*“. It means circle or round. After that it is called as round tour or package tour. The term tourism was first used in 13<sup>th</sup> century. It means the movement of people from one place to another place and ultimately returns to original place in specific period. A number of definitions are made by different scholars. Some of them are as follows:

In 1976, Tourism society of England has defined it as “Tourism is the temporary, short-term movement of people to destination outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at each destination. It includes movements for all purposes.”(Sharma J. K. 2007)

In 1941 Hunziker and Krapf have defined tourism as “The sum of the phenomena and relationships arising from the travel and stay of non-residents, in so far as they do not lead to permanent residence and are not connected with earning activity.” (Sharma J. K. 2007)

## **III. MEANING OF TOURIST**

The term tourism and tourist are sometimes wrongly used as same meaning, but these are different terms. According to the League of Nation, „Any person visiting a country other than that in which he usually resides, for a period of at least 24 hours.

The League of Nation regarded the following people as tourist:

- (a) Persons travelling for entertainment, pleasure, personal reasons for health.
- (b) Persons travelling to meetings or in a representative capacity of any kind of activity, these are scientific, administrative, religions and sports etc.
- (c) Persons travelling for business purposes.

(d) Persons arriving in the course of sea cruise, even when they stay for less than 24 hours.

The following categories are not to be acknowledged as tourist.

(a) Residents in a frontier zone and persons domiciled in one country and working in an adjoining country.

(b) Persons coming to establish residence in the country.

(c) Travellers passing through a country without stopping, even if the journey takes more than 24 hours.

(d) Persons arriving, with or without a contract of work, to take up an occupation or engage in any business activity in the country.

(e) Students and young persons in boarding establishment or schools.

The above mentioned definition is accepted and confirmed by the United Nations since 1971.

The definition of tourist is adopted by the Government of India is as a person visiting for a period of not less than 24 hours in country other than that which he normally resides.

#### **IV. HISTORY OF TOURISM**

Travel is a very old activity of human beings. It is originated along with his origin on the earth. However it was undertaken for the purpose of pleasure, but it was restricted to search of food, water and shelter. Though the reason of travel was to fulfill basic needs, man had been travelling through the ages.

The travel in the beginning was largely unconscious and rather a simple affair unlike the sophisticated travel in the modern times. There were no travel formalities nor frontiers existed in those times. „Travel for trade“ was the ancient characteristics of man.

There were merchants, pilgrims, scholars in search of ancient volumes and even a curious-way farers looking forward to new and exciting experiences. However the trade was the strongest force in the ancient past, encouraging people for travels to distant lands in order to seek features. There occurred growth in trade and travel, from it people interact its own culture and understanding of the mutual lifestyle. Therefore more and more people had travelled worldwide.

The Babylonian ruler Shulgi protected roads and built rest houses at various places for respectable wayfarers. At that time mostly people travelled for the purpose of trade. Some travellers travelled for the purpose of religion study, philosophy, and education.

In the medieval period travellers travelled for the purpose of religion and visited religious places. Therefore the growth of religious tourism was increased in Europe.

## **V. IMPORTANCE OF TOURISM**

Tourism has a strong relevance to economic development. It is a labour intensive service industry, which can create direct as well as indirect income from tourist expenditure by providing tourist-goods and services. It is a powerful tool of earning foreign exchange.

It is an important source for generating tourism revenue. The tax income to the government from tourism sector may be direct or indirect; viz. entertainment tax, property tax on accommodation, service tax and luxury tax are the benefits accrued to the state revenue. Most of the developing countries are facing problems of unemployment and underemployment.

Tourism industry has a great capacity to generate large scale employment opportunities for the educated and uneducated people. The development of tourism provides better infrastructure like transportation, accommodation, telecommunications, road, airport, water and power etc. The government and private participation are trying to develop the most needed infrastructure for the promotion of tourist centers.

Tourism has played a major role in improving international understanding. It has become contributor to the international goodwill and as a prime means of developing social and cultural understanding among all peoples with the world. Another importance of tourism is regional development. The underdeveloped regions of the country can be greatly benefited from tourism development.

Most of the economically backward regions contain areas of high scenic beauty and cultural attractions. These areas, if developed for use by tourists, can bring a lot of prosperity to the local people. Tourism development in these regions may become a significant factor in redressing regional imbalances in employment and income.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

Tourists are the backbone of the tourism industry and their satisfaction about facilities available at tourist place is very important. Therefore the study of the functional and behavioral characteristics of the tourists is essential for the development of tourism and planning of the tourist places.

In the present study the surveys have been conducted from 2011-12 for the assessment of the functional characteristics of the tourists who visited the study region. The interviews of tourists

were conducted at selected existing tourist places and potential tourist places during the picnic and off season for knowing their opinions.

The functional analysis of tourists reveals the views of the tourists and their behavioral attitude regarding the tourism. It is observed that maximum number of tourists nearly 70% visited from Maharashtra.

It has been recorded that the maximum number of tourists who visited Kolhapur district are from the districts like Pune, Satara, Sangli, Latur, Osmanabad, Nanded, Nashik, Ahmednagar, Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri.

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