



SCOPE OF ADVENTURE AND CULTURAL TOURISM IN SANGLI DISTRICT: A GEOGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract:

India has huge diversity in physical as well as cultural factors, including forests, plateaus, Mountains, Oceans, Rivers, Deserts, Historical places and cultural activities. This has tremendous scope for development of adventure and cultural tourism for both national and international tourists. Sangli district also has that type of potentiality to attract the national as well as international tourists. Therefore attempt is made here to examine the scope and development of Sangli districts tourist places data mainly based on the secondary data, observations and visiting that places. The mountainous region offer scope for trekking, mountaineering, river offers fishing and rafting, the forest region offers adventures like animal safari, bird watching, wild camp, jungle trial and enjoy the variety of flowers present in the Sangli district have been discussed.

Introduction:

There are various types of tourism done by verity of tourists. It is various from person to person. Some tourists like traditional type of tourism, some are historical, some are cultural, and some like to visit only temples or religious. The study region has huge scope for adventure, traditional as well as cultural tourism. The districts north eastern part covered with dense forest, some part came under rain shadow, and some by religious places. Each and every tahsil has history and culture as well as physical importance but this all adventure and cultural places of tourism are distributed unevenly overall district. The development of tourism places are helps to development of districts economic condition. That's why its study became significant for development of district and feature planning of the district. Chandoli region (Shirala taluka) receives highest rainfall i.e. 4000 MM Jat and Atpadi tehsils receives low rainfall i.e. 500 MM of Sangli district. That's why there are great variations in physical and cultural factors and it helps to development of tourism.

Study Area:

The study region is situated in the southern part of Maharashtra state. It is bounded by Kolhapur and Belgaum district from south. A Satara and Solapur district limits Sanglis boundaries from north. Bijapur district is to the east and Ratngiri district to its west. It is located between 16 45' N to 17°33' N latitudes and 73 41' E to 75°41' E longitudes. It covers area of 8572 sq km and has Warna and Krishna with small tributaries is important rivers of south Maharashtra.

Objectives:

The prime objective of this study is to examine

potentiality and scope of cultural as adventure tourism, and to create interest among peoples.

Adventure and cultural tourism places and activities:

I) Adventure Spots:

- A) Water Sports Rafting- Krishn, Warna, Agrani and Yerala River
- B) Fishing- Rivers and Tanks
- C) Trekking- Chandoli, Dandoba, Shirala, Bahubali hills, Shukracharya, Shambhu Mahadev Ranges
- D) Sanctuaries : Chandoli (Shirala), Sagarshwar (Kadegaon), and MAYANI Sanctuarie
- E) Flora and Fauna : Chandoli, Mayani And Sagarshwar

II) Cultural Spots:

Kavthe Ekand, Dandoba, Renavi Tempal, Shukracharya Temple, Battis Shirala, Bahubali Hills (Kumbhojgiri) Ganesh Temple Tasgaon and sangli, Haripur, Khandoba, and some jain temples of sangali and sangli fort.

Adventure places:

1) Rafting:

The Krishna, warna, yerala, maan, agrani, and bore are important Rivers of the districts during the monsoon it is possible to go rafting on the upper sections of these rivers. It is purely a seasonal activity (june-september) and tourist visits depend on adequate rainfall.

2) Angling and fishing:

The Krishna and their tributaries provide opportunity for angling and fishing there are various species of fresh water fish and people can enjoy in this fishing activity when they become tiered in daily life style.

3) Trekking:

Trekking is mostly attracting all type of tourists. Mostly peoples are who tiered from cities

crowded places and sounds. There are many hills and forests are completely mind blowing. Some places of Sangli district are best for trekking. Such are dandoba hill, Shukracharya Hill, Chandoli Sanctuary, Bahubali hill, Sagareshwar Sanctuary. Above all stations five to six hours trek. Most of the trekkers make this trek one day affairs.

4) Sanctuaries:

Sagareshwar wild life sanctuary It is 30 km from sangli city. It is at trifurcation of three tehsils namely Khanapur, walwa and palus tehsils of sangli district. Near about 10.87 sq km area occupies by this sanctuary. It is artificially cultivated forest without supply of provisional water and in which most of the wildlife species are artificially introduced.

Chandoli Sanctuary: It is located in the backwater of chandoli dam, in battis shirala tehsil of sangli district. It covers an area of 309 sq km and officiated in 1985. It covered by mountains and thick variety of trees. It is 65 km away from the sangli city. Monkeys, Deer, Wild Goats, Rabbits, Tigers, Snakes, and Peacocks are the important wild animals in this area. This sanctuary is also famous for its scenic beauty and rare species of trees and plants. it includes the forest regions of four districts of sangli, satara, Kolhapur and ratnagiri districts. The average rainfall of this district is 2000 to 2500 mms.

5) Flora and Fauna :

The typical Indian biodiversity trees are observed at chandoli. The chandoli is shelter of plethora of avian life and for the human it has a range of products. The Indian names are used for different trees. Including Hirda, Ain, Behada, Mun, Pangara, Jackfruite, Palms, Umber, Awala, Amba, Apta, etc. it also hosts medicinal plants like Adulsa, Kadunimb, Shikekai, Tamalpatra.

The fauna includes a variety of animals and birds, it provide shelter for Panthers, Bison's, Wild oats, Languor's, Bears, Porcupines, Barking dears, wild dogs, Horses etc. prey reds like eagles, Marlins, Kites, Owls. The koel, Tunas, Babblers, Kingfishers, Hoppers, crow-pheasants and peafowl's, observed in this chandoli.

6) Historical:

1) Sangli Fort: it is situated in the center of sangali city. Inside the fort there is district collector's office, Revenue office, and Maratha school of girls namely Purohit Girls High-school and Museum. Rajwada place also located inside the fort. Whereas the museum is located in backside of the

Rajwada and Sangali court located just opposite to the fort.

2) Tehalni Buruj: it is a big watch tower located on dandoba hill. It is very big in size which was used to watching enemy movements from distance.

Cultural Places :

It includes Audumbar Audumber, Dandoba, Renavi, Shukracharya, Battis Shirala, Kumbhojgiri, Tasgaon Ganesh Mandir, Sangameshwar, Haripur, Kavthe Ekand, Aaravade and Jain Temples.

A) Audumbar:

it is a holy place of sangli district, located 25 km away from sangli city. A sacred temple of lord dattatrya is located on the edge of Krishna river. It is very famous place many people's visits this place daily.

B) Dandoba Temple:

this temple is located on hill of Dandoba, which is border of Miraj and Kavathe Mahankal tehasils. It is just 25 minutes driving distance from sangli city. Dandoba temple is old temple of lord Shankara at the hill of Dandoba.

C) Shukracharya Temple:

Shukracharya also known as Asuracharya. The temple is located in Khanapur tehsil of sangli district on Khanapur Jat road. It is oldest temple of Sangli District. This place is well known for calm Environment. Lots of peoples visit this place throughout the year.

D) Battis Shirala :

it is a small village located about 65 km from sangli city. This area is covered with thick forest cover and best known for Nag-Panchami festival (Snakes Festival) every year. During this festival thousands of tourists visits this place.

E) Kumbhojgiri (Bahubali Hill):

It is 50 minutes drive from sangli. It is located 27 km south of Kolhapur, Maharashtra. The 28 feet tall marbals statue of Bahubali attracts to Jain as well as other tourists.

F) Ganesh Temple, Tasgaon:

It is very famous temple of tasgaon. it is built by Parshuram Patwardhan King of Tasgaon Sansthan and Senapati of Peshwa emperor. This temple is built on the bases of south Indian temples. The visitors attract or visit this place at time of Rath Yatra. Which are held during ganesh festival time. The tourists are also visits the grape producing centers and farms. It is one of the most famous grape cultivation and production tehsil of Maharashtra state.

G) Kavthe Ekand :

The place kavathe Ekand is very famous for big crackers and lightening show which runs full night till sunrise during the festival of vijaya dashami dashera. It is old historical temple of shri siddhanath god.

H) Other Places:

Haripur, Khandoba, Sangameshwar Shiva Temple, Bahe Borgaon, Aaravade, Ped lake and Most of Jain Temples of Sangli districts are scope for attracts visitors.

Conclusion:

From the above discussion we came to conclude that the sangli district had variety of topography, climate and natural beauty and it gives rise to number of natural as well as cultural or religious trips and some type of adventure trips like river rafting, trekking, angling and fishing are easily available in most part of the sangli district. There is a need to develop these areas keeping in mind the concept of eco-friendly for the welfare of the people.

Maharashtra government has introduced various schemas and program for the growth of and development of the tourism in this region by providing different facilities to tourists. The Sangli district has vast potential of adventure and cultural tourism. There is need for strong advertisement to identify these locations and to attract the travelers other districts and India and also foreigners.

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