



ECO TOURISM IN TELANGANA: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT:

Eco the tourism industry is a little portion of the by and large the tourism industry area in India. It is one of the quickest developing the tourism industry portions and further fast development is anticipated from here on out. Tourism has become World's largest and fastest growing industry with employment of 260 million people and contribution to 9% of world's GDP. In today's scenario Sustainable tourism is a responsible tourism intending to generate employment and income along with alleviating any deeper impact on environment and local culture. Consequently, an endeavor has been made to concentrate different issues and difficulties towards eco the tourism industry. The difficulties are deficient framework, for example, transport, absence of sufficient disinfection offices, removal of camping area sewage in waterways, polluting the natural life, domesticated animals and individuals who draw drinking water from it, deforestation, disturbance of biological life frameworks and different types of contamination, all of which add to natural debasement. There is a danger to native culture for example the nearby individual's battle for social endurance and opportunity of social articulation. The ecotourism local area is supposed to be more comprehensive of inventive and socially impartial methodologies. The public authority ought to attempt natural effect evaluation for every new undertaking and direct ordinary climate reviews for every single continuous movement, prompting advancement for ecological improvement programs. To make Telangana an attractive destination for eco-tourism and tribal tourism, Government of Telangana is developing two Tourism Circuit projects namely: (i) Integrated Development connecting Mulugu, Laknavaram, Medaram, Tadvai, Damarvai, Mallur and Bogatha Waterfalls – Tribal Tourism Circuit and (ii) Integrated Development of Eco Tourism Circuit in Mahabubnagar district. These circuits cover scenic and natural beauty of the region, covering forests, wildlife, waterfalls, caves, rivers and reservoirs and ancient temples. Government proposes to develop road connectivity along with building ropeways, tourist cottages, and cruise boats.



KEY WORDS: Deforestation, environmental degradation, ecological life, conservation, eco tourism, Telangana.

INTRODUCTION

India's tourism industry is encountering major areas of strength for an of development, driven by the burg coming Indian working class, development in high spending unfamiliar sightseers and co-ordinate government missions to advance "Incredible India". The tourism industry in India is substance

and energetic and the nation is quick turning into a significant worldwide objective. India's movement and the tourism industry is one of the most beneficial ventures in the nation and credited with contributing a significant measure of unfamiliar trade. The tourism industry in India is the biggest and quickest developing in the country. It unfathomably affects the public economy and assumes a significant part in different parts of the nation's development and improvement, particularly the formation of occupations. There are the various sorts of the tourism industry. Yet, presently the idea and beginning of eco the tourism industry developed from an imaginative key view for preservation and insurance into a monstrous worldwide financial endeavor.

Ecotourism has been suggested as a tool for the conservation and management of deserts' natural and cultural heritage. As one of the fastest growing sectors of global tourism industry, ecotourism has a potential to serve as an environmentally, socio culturally and economically viable option for promoting sustainable development in the desert biome. Many factors provide opportunities to develop ecotourism in deserts, which need to be carefully considered for both nature conservation goals and local socioeconomic wellbeing. For this article, we start by contextualizing ecotourism and its research in deserts, and then describe possible attractions and constraints exhibited by deserts to develop ecotourism. We conclude with a discussion of the potential positive and negative impacts that ecotourism may derive on different desert facets.

IMPORTANCE OF ECOTOURISM

India is one of the most diverse countries in the world, and that spells magic. Ecotourism in India is a thriving industry owing to the fact that country has managed to save its resplendent natural beauty. The country has a biological park, zoological parks, tea plantations, wildlife sanctuaries, mighty mountains and lush green jungles in its kitty. Being popular for its exclusive nature and tribal population, India is nature's bounty and the best place to stay in the world (in my humble opinion). Ecotourism is entirely a new approach in tourism. Eco tourism is a preserving tourism to natural areas to appreciate the cultural and natural history of the environment, taking care not to disturb the integrity of the eco system, while creating economic opportunities that make conservation and protection of natural resources advantageous to the local people. Since ages, nature worship and the conservation ethics have been an inseparable part of Indian thought and traditions. Traces go back to ancient civilisations of India, when people used to nurture the philosophy of the oneness of life.

DEVELOPMENT OF ECOTOURISM IN INDIA

Natural diversity of India

To be with nature and enjoy its creations in the most natural way without endangering it is known as ecotourism. It can take several forms: to be in a beautiful natural forest or landscape; to enjoy watching animals. birds and trees or corals and marine life in a sea; to engage in trekking, boating or rafting; and to wander into sanddunes. These are some of the common forms of ecotourism. Though the word ecotourism has gained importance only recently, India has been experiencing it through the ages.

Geographical diversity of India

India is a nation of mainland aspects comprising of four particular locales, specifically, the extraordinary mountain zone, fields of the Ganga and the Indus streams, the desert district and the southern promontory. Close to 66% of the Himalaya is in the mountain zone of India, including huge levels and valleys. The fields of the Ganga and the Indus are framed by bowls of three unmistakable waterway frameworks, the Indus, the Ganga and the Brahmaputra. The desert district comprises of the extraordinary desert and the little desert. The incredible desert stretches out from the Rann of Kachchh and goes through the Rajasthan-Sind boondocks. The little desert stretches out from the Luni River among Jaisalmer and Jodhpur up toward the northern squanders. The peninsular level is flanked on one side by the Eastern Ghats and on the other by the Western Ghats. Between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea there is a thin beach front strip, while between the Eastern Ghats and the Inlet of Bengal

lies a more extensive beach front region. India is accordingly supplied with each land structure, mountains, fields, deserts and ocean coasts.

Ecotourism Resources

The geographical diversity of India has also given it a wealth of eco-systems which are being protected and preserved. They have also become the major resources for ecotourism. One specific element is bio-sphere reserves. These are multi-purpose areas protected in order to preserve the genetic diversity and integrity of plants. Animals and micro-organisms in representative eco-systems. There are seven such reserves in India at present: Nilgiri; Nanda Devi; Nokrek; Great Nicobar; Gulf of Mannar; Manas and Sunderbans. A second element is mangroves, which are specialized forest eco-systems in tropical and subtropical regions of the world bordering sheltered sea coasts and estuaries. Major mangrove areas are: Northern Andaman and Nicobar; Sunderbans; Bhitarkanika and Mahanadi Delta; Coringa, Godavari Delta and Krishna Estuary; Pichavaram and Point Calimere; Goa; Gulf of Kutch; Coondapur; Achra/Ratnagiri; and Vembanad. The third element is coral and coral reefs. There are four coral areas identified in India so far: Gulf of Mannar; Andaman and Nicobar Islands; Lakshadweep Islands; and Gulf of Kutch.

Development of ecotourism

India has consistently included environmental and ecological safeguards in the development of ecotourism in order to avoid gross commercialism. Opening ecological areas for tourism is generally done after careful assessment of carrying capacity to ensure that nature's bounty is not destroyed. India has also always tried to ensure that tourism does not impinge on the culture and heritage. In general, a sound and sensitive environmental approach is adopted to tourism development planning and is integrated with other activities to ensure the following: a) Levels of development are to be compatible with the general capacity of the physical environment and resources. b) Sufficient facilities and services need to be provided to serve tourists and the local population. c) Hotel rooms must be distributed in such a manner that the natural characteristics and qualities of the area are enhanced. d) The three dimensional manifestation of tourism development should be designed carefully and with a sensitivity that merges with the surroundings and enhances the natural beauty. e) Architectural heritage sites and other areas of historic value are to be adequately protected. In the initial years of ecotourism development, greater emphasis was given to the development of tourism in the Himalayas and the deserts. One of the earliest projects was the Gulmarg Winter Sports Resort. However, the focus has been on the provision of basic minimum facilities for visits by eco-friendly tourists to the hills, national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. Forest lodges and viewing towers were provided in some of the important sanctuaries along with transport facilities in the form of jeeps and elephants.

Development of Ecotourism in Telangana State

The insides of Telangana are enriched with a variety of normal assets having the potential for eco-the travel industry and have a few 'virgin attractions' in safeguarded regions. Despite such an enormous potential, the development of eco-the travel industry in Telangana isn't exceptionally uplifting. With the development of the territory of Telangana, the political administration is enthusiastic about advancing ecotourism in the state. While such special methodology guarantees improvement of country economy straightforwardly, it will decidedly affect the culture also.

Pretty much every region in Telangana can possibly create as a focal point of ecotourism. From Kuntala and Pochera cascades in Adilabad area to the Farahabad Wildlife Sanctuary in Mahabubnagar area, Ananthagiri Slopes in Vikarabad region to Pakhal Sanctuary, Lakshnavaram and Ramappa Lakes in Warangal locale, there are a plenty of destinations that warrant tapping of the travel industry potential accordingly using the social legacy and customary resources of towns to encourage supported monetary turn of events and business improvement. The travel industry overall and ecotourism specifically is one area that had never had enough of consideration with respect to the government.

Telangana, by virtue of its unique location in the heart of Deccan Plateau enjoys unique climatic conditions, which are considered conducive for the thriving flora and fauna. There are renowned wildlife sanctuaries all over the region. Kawal is a dense forest region, which is home to endangered tigers. It is also called as Jannaram wildlife sanctuary. Some of the other prominent wildlife sanctuaries in Telangana are Pranahita wildlife sanctuary, Eturunagaram, Shivaram wildlife Sanctuary, Nagarjuna Sagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary. The Deccan plateau is a region of unique and great biodiversity, reflected in the various wildlife havens of the region. The Eturunagaram Sanctuary was declared a wildlife sanctuary in the year 1953 by the former Hyderabad Government, thanks to its rich biodiversity. The area in this wildlife park is full of steep and gentle slopes. On top of it, the sanctuary area has some historical significance owing to the existence of tree fossils in this Sarvai area and caves. Eturunagaram Wildlife Sanctuary is also counted as those rare eco-regions around the globe that has various embryonic species of ephemeral elements. The natural park is a narrow band of forest formation and close to three-fourths of this entire land is identified by rising and falling plain land surface while the remaining part of it is hilly with a profusion of streams and springs. The perennial river Dayyagudem flows through this beautiful sanctuary. This Dayyagudem separates the wildlife sanctuary into two parts. The region is covered completely with thick natural vegetation.

ISSUES OF ECOTOURISM

Taxation impact

This can be seen according to 2 viewpoints: the expenses on consumption by traveler and the monetary charges and advantages given to the eco the travel industry. The effect of tax collection is extremely high on the travel industry areas understanding the reality the public authority of India has started by nullification of consumption expense of 20% and expanded personal tax breaks as given to foundation units and obligation imports by lodgings of shopper things including alcohol.

Evolving a tourism plan

An all encompassing methodology would require critical assets the animal of supporting framework and in limit working among the nearby local area to oversee and work the area.

Roads

Quality streets are essential for quicker and effective development of the travel industry and related items from air terminals, stations to the travel industry properties. The condition of the streets has been shocking.

Airports

It fills in as the principal direct experience that a traveler needs to draw in. Yet tragically the air terminal framework in India passes on a ton to be merited blocked air terminals, inappropriate formats, imposing business model of air terminals authority of India. There are absence of legitimate offices such as utilities, shopping regions and long defer in migration leeway.

Financing and self sustainability of eco tourism projects

The turn of events and upkeep of verdure and different components of absolutely bio-actual conditions, for example, regular parks, untamed life safe-havens or wet grounds should be outfitted.

CHALLENGES OF ECOTOURISM

Eco the travel industry improvement should be recognized as a public technique before unambiguous arrangements and regulations will be viable. General arrangements on the travel industry alone are lacking to bargain with local area based eco the travel industry. In this manner, it should be outlined to explain authority and obligation of different partners in eco the travel industry improvement. Eco the travel industry permits guests to partake in a fascination local area with a volume of traveler and effect to such an extent that the neighborhood culture and climate stay healthy.

The travel industry and sporting are constantly prompted some degree of debilitation to normal assets. Consequently, there is a need to create an eco travel industry strategy that is comprehensive, practicable and gives reasonable linkages of social and regular habitats by including every applicable boundary.

CONCLUSION

The tourism industry contributes around 10% of the absolute GDP of the world. It is bigger than the vehicle or IT area. It is a coordinated industry covering extensive variety of both private and public areas and gives gigantic work open doors. Taking into account financial advantage, work amazing open doors and the conceivable outcomes that will help the networks in vacationer regions, all Southeast Asian nations have seen the rising possibilities of the tourism industry area. From the western encounters, the tourism industry has been seen as a specialist of improvement. The tourism industry ought to be accordingly viewed as an industry tantamount to different ventures. The basis of the rights-based approach in development of ecotourism is the 73rd and 74th Amendment to the Constitution of India, which accords rights to local self government institutions, bringing into their jurisdiction matters related to land, water, socio-economic development, infrastructure development, social welfare, social and urban forestry, waste management and maintenance of community assets. Ecotourism development falls under the purview of these subjects and therefore decision making by the local self government institutions is important. The local self government institutions need to be involved in all level of ecotourism development from approval of the project, to planning, implementing, development, marketing, evaluating, monitoring. Ecotourism advance financial development, while rationing the climate of an area by saving the eco framework and biodiversity. It advances a feeling of local area interest, natural mindfulness and social responsiveness. Eco the travel industry implies making somewhat natural influence as could be expected and assisting with supporting the native people, in this manner empowering the safeguarding of untamed life and environments while visiting a spot. This is a dependable type of the travel industry and the travel industry advancement which urges returning to regular items in each part of life. It can be said that eco the travel industry is a type of the travel industry that includes visiting the regular regions in the remote wild or country conditions. It lays accentuation on natural protection, and safeguarding of natural variety and social variety through security of eco framework. Besides, it advances practical utilization of organic variety by giving position to neighborhood populaces. Subsequently, eco the travel industry is inescapable to accomplish the objective of maintainable turn of events.

Being the basis for diverse ecosystems with predominantly indigenous populations like the Gonds and Koyas of Adilabad, Karimnagar, Khammam and Warangal districts, the virgin interiors of the state of Telangana offer a unique selling proposition of ecotourism. These virgin interiors inter alia comprise of forest ecosystems that contribute significantly to the forest cover and biological diversity of the state. Newer biodiversity rich areas, under Protected Area status or otherwise, are being rapidly opened for ecotourism. In the absence of a coherent policy, regulation and guidelines, current form of ecotourism will have adverse impact on biodiversity; lives and governance systems of communities, thereby resulting in loss of rights and benefits arising from use of biological resources to communities.

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