



A Study of Selected Tourism Centres in Beed District

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Abstract:

Tourism is the sum of the phenomena and host communities in the processes of attracting and hosting these tourist and other visitors. Maharashtra is leading state in India in regard with tourism industry. Tourism comprises the activities of persons traveling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purpose. Beed district has many historical, cultural, religious, natural places of tourism. The district has great tourism potential. Varied tourism kinds like Cultural, historical, agro-based, religious and geographical are observed in the district. The tourism development in the district is only to the satisfaction level. Local economy is not getting benefit as expected from it. The systematic development of the tourist centres are not resulting in fruitful way. Central, State and local authorities are trying on their level to improve the situation, but constraints on the way of tourism development are paralyzing the efforts. This paper is an attempt to appreciate the problems and prospects of tourism development in Beed district.

Keywords: Tourism development, tourism potential, tourism industry

Introduction:

Tourism is the sum of the phenomena and host communities in the processes of attracting and hosting these tourist and other visitors. An inherent feature of difference between tourism and other from of leisure pleasure and recreation in terms of the travel component moreover money grossed in ones acknowledged domicile is spent at the destination and en route to it. Tourism is the largest service industry in India, with a contribution of 6.23% to the national GDP and 8.78% of the total employment in



India. India witnesses more than 5 million annual foreign tourist arrivals and 562 million domestic tourism visits. Maharashtra boasts of a large number of popular and revered religious venues that are heavily frequented by locals as well as out-of-state visitors. The Beed district is famous for historical, Religious, cultural, agricultural tourism centres.

Beed District - Study Region :

Beed District is located to the south of Aurangabad District and centre of Marathwada. Geographically, Beed is spread over 18°27' to 19°27' North latitude and 74°49' to 76°44' East longitude. The district had total population of 2585049 as per 2011 census which account to 2.30% to total. The total area of the Beed District is 10694 sq.km which account to 3.47% to Maharashtra State. There are 11 tahsils in the district. In 2011 census, the district has 9 towns and 1368 villages (including 11 uninhabited villages). The total literacy rate of the district as per 2011 census is 76.99%. The rural and urban literacy rates are 74.73% and 86.04% respectively. Sex ratio of the District is 916 and ranks 31st among the Districts in the State. The sex ratio for rural and urban areas of the district is 912 and 933 respectively. In 2011 Census, the district recorded 3,51,254 (13.6 percent) Scheduled Caste population and 32,722 (1.3 percent) Scheduled Tribe population.

Objectives:

- 1) To identify the tourist places having tourism potential.
- 2) To search problems in the way of tourism development.
- 3) To suggest suitable remedies to overcome the problems tourism development.

Database & Methodology:

The study is based on primary as well as secondary data. Data regarding tourist places are collected from various sources like Library, books, information brochure of historical places. Some data is collected from Direct field experience. The help of MTDC has been also taken. All collected data has been analysed systematically.

Analysis:

Some important tourist places in Beed District:

Shahanshawali Dargah:

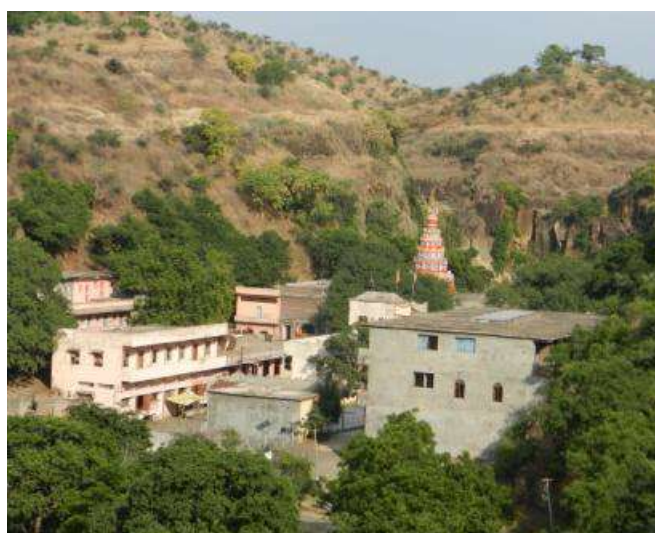
When Emperor Tuglaq shifted his capital from Delhi to Devnagni, many maulaha and saints followed him and their by there are many religious and pilgrimages places in Beed. Khwaja Abul Faiz was one of them and is among one of the renowned saints of Marathwada



region. He was basically from Afghanistan's kochak village. Considering the popularity and philosophical ideology, he was given the title of Shahanshawali Chisti. On the eastern part of Beed on a hillock his Dargah is built for worship. This Dargah is visited by all religious conviction.

Kapildhar:

The place is known for the samadhi of Manmath wami held in high esteem by the Lingayats. It is located amidst picturesque surroundings with small waterfalls in front, trickling down from a hill of about 9.5 metres height. The samadhi is housed in a gabhara surmounted by a small but well designed sikhar. The



sabhamandap with a homakund in its centre is open on all the sides. Pavilions have been built near the samadhi to accommodate pilgrims. The location is pleasantly cool

due to growth of numerous trees, wild flowers and plants, which thrive due to the proximity of the waterfall. Apart from high daily visitation, about 5.5 lakh persons visit during Kartik Purnima held in the month of November for two days. It is located at a distance of about 18 km from Beed city in the southern direction with area of around 100 acres

Chakarwadi: A beautiful temple is built at Chakarwadi at the barial place of great Saint Gyaneshwar Mauli. He was born in Uttreshwar Pimpri and worked for the people there. It is believed that he had the blessings of Lord Shiva and Lord Hanuman. On every Amavashya, large number of people visits this



place for his blessing. Chakarwadi is about 35 Km from Beed on the south-eastern side.

Sautada forest & Rameshwar Temple: Sautada is known for the waterfall and the temple of Rameshwar. The river Vincarna rises at a place called Cikhli about 1.60 km from Sautada village falls down from a height of about 69 m and then further cuts its course through rugged hills and mountains clad with forests. The scene of the water falling down from such a great height is pleasing to the eye. From the mountain cliff down to the level of the river basin a flight of about 600 steps has been built. At the base of the fall there is a pond known as dev kund. It is so-called because it is supposed to have been created by Ram by shooting an arrow. Further away is a big water strip in the form of a doh called Sita kund. On a stone slab here, there are the footprints of Sita. Amidst such fascinating natural surroundings is situated the temple of Rameshwar built in the Hemadpanti style.

Jagdamba Devi, Aaicha Tanda: Temple of Jagdamba Devi situated on a small hillock. There are other small temples in the compound on side of main temple. One



needs to come by own vehicle as no public transport is available till the temple. Dussara is celebrated with great enthusiasm in the month September / October for 9 days and is attended by more than 35000 persons per day while the last day observes nearly 2.5 lakh devotees. Apart from other district of Maharashtra like Jalna, Aurabgabad, Parbhani etc devotees also comes from states like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh etc

Yogeshwari Temple: The temple is built in Hemadpanti style and there is much architectural work of note. It is known for one among three and half Shaktipith in Maharashtra. The temple has witnessed several transformations over time. In one of the inscriptions of the Yadavas, it is mentioned as having three big sikhars. It is probable that the original temple was destroyed. Nagoji Trimal and Samji Bapuji built the present temple, some 250 years ago, on the remains of the original structure. The Yogeshwari relates the purpose or incarnation, which was to destroy the demon Dantasura who was harassing the sages performing yajnyas.

Parli Vaijnath: Parli is well-known for the shrine of Vaijanath containing 5th of the famous twelve jyotirlingas of India. The temple is supposed to have been originally constructed by Hemadri or Hemadpant, the chief minister of the Yadavas of Devagiri, of which nothing except an image of nandi remains to date. This gives the temple an antiquity of over 600 years and is proved by a date on one of the steps of the juna ghat. The present temple was built by Ahilyabai Holkar, who once happened to visit the site and moved by the ruined state of the temple ordered its reconstruction. The temple is visited by a large number of devotees everyday while the festival of Mahashivratri is celebrated with great enthusiasm and is attended by more than 7 lakh devotees.

Conclusion:

Above all the description shows that, Beed District has almost religious and progressive tourist centres. In order to increase the standard of tourism in the district, facilities at the World Heritage can be improved. To improve the current situation,



there is chance to produce a world class visitor experience by implementing good practices. MTDC and local authorities should set best practice for safety and security of the Tourists. There should be showcase culture including performing Arts, Cuisine, Customs, Traditions, Festivals, Social Values etc. Healthy practices in tourism will certainly achieve the expected tourist satisfaction index.

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