

EVALUATION OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES CREATED BY DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM IN KARNATAKA



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

India is one of the main tourist destinations of the global tourists with its rich heritage and places of historical importance. Tourism has become one of the major industries earning huge foreign exchange and this is increasing year after year due to increased tourist arrivals into the country. The varied and rich culture and festivals of the country have been attracting large number of tourists from across the globe. As a result of changes in income levels of the people & development of infrastructure, tourist population has been showing higher growth. Consequently, this industry has come to attract entrepreneurs as it provides attractive returns and creates gainful employment. Apart from wage employment, tourism has also provided scope for self employment to large number of persons.

Karnataka, the eighth largest State in India has been ranked as the fourth most popular state in the country for tourism. It is home to 507 of the 3600 centrally protected monuments in India; the largest number after Uttar Pradesh. Tourism is spread all over the State and mainly centres around the ancient sculptured temples, modern cities, the hill ranges, forests and beaches.

Infrastructure for tourism includes basic infrastructure components like transport facilities (airport, railways, roads, waterways); electricity, water supply & other services; facilities like accommodation, restaurants, recreation, shopping, etc.,. Tourism infrastructure therefore, involves the integrated development of basic infrastructure and amenities along with all tourism facilities in a balanced manner.

With a view to taking advantage of the opportunities for development of tourism not only in the existing tourist centres, but also in new locations, the Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka has been focusing more on developing infrastructure at all tourist destinations across the State. The Department has formulated a forward looking tourism policy for promotion of tourism related activities in the State. Some of the major projects are being taken up through Public Private Partnership.

The Department of Tourism has identified five tourism sectors in Karnataka for development of tourism infrastructure; which includes (i) Heritage circuit, (ii) Coastal circuit, (iii) Eco-tourism, (iv) Hill stations and (v) Wild life & waterfalls. As a strategy for development, the Government has identified various tourism components which include (i) Accommodation – Hotels, Yatrivas, Dormitory facilities etc., (ii) Way-side amenities, (iii) Public convenience and drinking water facilities, (iv) Land scaping – Children's Park, Entertainment park etc., (v) Information centres, (vi) Interpretation centres, (vii) Development of link roads, Air strips, Helipads, (viii) Flood lighting to the monuments, sound and light show projects, (ix) Beautification of the destinations, (x) Development of tourism circuits, (xi) Development of night safari , & (xii) Development of special tourism area such as lakes, dam sites, temples and forts.

The Government of Karnataka is being assisted by the Government of India in development of tourism with financial assistance. A number of infrastructure facilities are created to serve the swelling tourist traffic. Having invested huge sums in infrastructure, the Government of Karnataka considered it appropriate to evaluate the infrastructure facilities created by the Department during the years 2009 & 2010 by an external agency to have an objective first hand information on the effectiveness of the projects. In all 16 projects were selected for detailed study. Indian Resources Information & Management Technologies Ltd.,

(IN-RIMT) was entrusted with the work and accordingly, IN-RIMT conducted the evaluation focusing on the objectives and scope contained in the Terms of Reference (ToR)

The main objective of the present evaluation is to know the overall impact of the development of infrastructure facilities, document the qualitative & quantitative performance, identification of felt needs of the tourists, enlist major, technical, management and other related problems encountered during project implementation and to suggest changes required, if any.

The following 16 centres in eight categories where works were taken up during the two financial years i.e., 2008-09 and 2009-10, were taken up for the study.

Sl. No.	Type	Locations
1	Tourist facilities	Chitradurga (2009), Sadhanakere in Dharward (2009), Meke Daatu near Kanakapura (2010), Nrupatunga Hills in Hubli (2010)
2	Yatri Nivas and other facilities	Shantisagar near Davangere (2009), Kuruvatti near Bellary(2010), Varur near Dharwad (2009)
3	Dormitories	Uduthadi near Shimoga (2010), Shikaripura near Shimoga (2010)
4	Eco Tourism	Hanumanthanagar near Mandya (2009), Kamalapura near Hampi (2010)
5	Link Road Development	Belur in Hassan District (2009), Badami in Bagalkot District (2009)
6	Beach Resort	Malpe near Udupi (2010)
7	Hotel Upgradation	Madikeri (2009)
8	Jungle Camps and trails	Sakkarebailu near Shimoga (2010)

Chitradurga

In Chitradurga, the Department of Tourism has constructed a Yatri Nivas and the facilities created include Dormitory with facilities to accommodate 8 + 5 beds, a yoga cum meditation centre, reception and a restaurant. An estimated 2000 tourists including school students visit this place and make use of the facilities.

Going by the number of visitors, there is need to increase the number of beds in the centre. Starting of a restaurant is highly essential to facilitate visitors. It may also be necessary to provide recreation facilities to the visitors in order to attract more tourists.

Overall working of the centre is rated as good but publicity needs to be intensified to create awareness among the tourists. Since Chitradurga has a number of places of historical importance, any additional facility provided here would benefit the tourists who frequent this district.

Sadhanakeri, Dharwad

The tourist facilities created in Sadhanakeri park area of Dharwad town include entry arch, foot path, benches, fountain, toilets and gazebos. Boating facilities have been provided and the tank has been desilted to facilitate smooth operation of boating. A bore well is also provided.

Overall, the facilities created under the project meet the demand of the visitors. Additional facilities required and suggested are (i) a Taralaya, (ii) pisciculture, (iii) additional irrigation facilities through sprinkler, (iv) Border planting with shelter belts with wind break species and (v) At the entry point, there is drainage problem (sewage line flowing into the tank in rainy season). This needs to be addressed by constructing a diversion drain for sewage water immediately. There is shortage of drinking water for the visitors within the centre. All the civil works are of good quality and as per specifications.

Mekedaatu

At Sangama, the Department has constructed a hotel building with rooms and dormitories, a reception counter and few shops. The work is fully completed and the hotel would be ready to operate in a month or so. In view of heavy influx of tourists particularly during holidays, there is need to create adequate parking facilities also. The other works being taken up are providing seating/ benches, gate & compound, road works, water weir & protection wall. Vehicle entry fee is being collected from the owners who park their vehicles near the river, whereas, no parking arrangement nor any shade is erected. The entire area is full of garbage and leftovers and plastic package materials. At the Meke Daatu Valley point, no arrangements are available for sitting nor there is any shade to protect the tourists from sun or rain. The following improvements are necessary:

- Parking lot for the vehicles at the entrance or in some strategic approachable place
- Lighting, roads, gates at entry point
- Protection fence/ shade facilities at Mekedaatu.
- Road connecting Sangama from Kanakapura need to be improved and bus facilities to be provided from Bangalore, especially during holidays.

Nrupathunga Hills, Hubli

The project here, covered development of facilities in about 8 acres of land on Nrupathunga hills in Hubli, and the work includes providing pavers/ kerbs for pathway, electrification & lighting works, landscaping, gardening, water supply/ borewell, ornamental works (arch/ hand railings), gazebos, construction of canteen, toilet blocks, overhead tank, watchmen/ electric room sheds, sloped pathway, waterfalls, fountain and statues. All the works executed are good and as per specifications and are fully complete in all respects.

In view of increase in number of visitors and their expectations, there is need to provide additional facilities such as creation of a water body, construction of Yatri Nivas, few stalls, and a dhyana mandir. Rope way facilities, border planting with trees, facilities for deer park/ aquarium etc., may be useful.

It is also suggested that the entire area should be declared as "No Plastic zone" in view of influx of large number of visitors frequenting the centre. Hawkers and traders presently use plastic bags/ carry bags for various sales / parcel purposes. Such plastic material is often dumped randomly creating environmental hazards.

Shanti Sagar (Sulekere), Davangere district

This project at Shanti Sagar was originally sanctioned during 2007-08 but was inaugurated during 2009-10. The facilities include 5 dormitories, 2 VIP rooms, a reception and kitchen. Provision for a garden/ park has been made, but yet to be taken-up. On the bank of Sulikere tank, work on turfing, path ways, cruising is in progress and it is expected to be completed within the next six months. Civil works are as per standards and specifications. The works for creation of the above facilities have already been completed but are yet to be handed over for facilitating the use by the visitors.

In view of its natural panoramic view, it is going to serve as a very good tourist centre, in future. The Department may suggest Forest Department to plan and take up afforestation programme in the hill range bounded by the reservoir.

Yatri Nivas, Varoor

This project at Varoor was sanctioned during 2009-10 and the facilities proposed are (i) Dormitories (ii) Studio Rooms & (iii) Dining Hall; located very near the famous Jain Temple. The purpose was to provide lodging and food facilities to tourists and pilgrims visiting the Jain temple. Presently, first floor of the building is at finishing stage, with over 80% of the work completed. The second floor is partially completed and the civil works at this stage are as per specifications.

The Yatri Nivas and other facilities provided here would be fully utilized in view of visit of large number of pilgrims who set out their journey from Gujarat/ Maharashtra and Rajasthan on a circular route, covering Jain temples at different places and ending their journey at Sravana Belagola, near Hassan.

The Construction work is to be completed soon and canteen facilities need to be started immediately as there are no eateries nearby. Also, there is need to request the Transport Department (KSRTC) to provide an official bus stop with shelter near the facility, which will certainly help the pilgrims. Landscaping of the garden would add to aesthetic value of the area

Yatri Nivas, Kuravatti

The facilities created at Yatri Nivas at Kuravatti include a Multi-purpose hall, a VIP room, a small hall and a Kitchen. Since the centre is in the vicinity of the temple which is a famous local pilgrim centre, there would be regular flow of tourists and pilgrims to the temple. It would also create local employment opportunities. Since the centre is yet to be opened for public, its impact on the local population can be assessed only after a couple of years.

Shikaripura

The dormitory facilities created by the Department at Shikaripura include 5 dormitories, 2 VIP rooms with attached facilities such as reception counter, toilets & kitchen. A park with lighting and fountain, play area for children is also present. In addition, a tank and boating facilities is also included and is nearing completion. There is delay in some civil works construction due to water stagnation problem. This centre is expected to cater to the needs of the visitors with facility of eatery, children's play and rest area.

This centre is strategically located and can attract large number of visitors when thrown open to public. Since it is yet to be opened, interviews with tourists could not be carried out. However, informal interactions with some of the residents of the area indicated that they are waiting for the centre to open and opined that the facility will be attractive and useful to the locals as well as tourists. Delay in completion of some works, particularly in the park area. need to be addressed to immediately. Otherwise, this centre has high potential of tourist utility and quality of Civil works are to the specifications.

Uduthadi

This centre is in the vicinity of Akka Mahadevi Trust/ temple and the objective of creating this facility is to cater to the pilgrims visiting the temple, as the present accommodation at the trust building is inadequate to meet the demand. The facilities proposed include 2 VIP rooms, 2 dormitories, kitchen, dining room, toilets and electrification & fencing.

The structures are completed but the centre is yet to be handed over to the Akkamahadevi Trust. Though the building is completed, no electricity or water connection is provided. Completion of the remaining works relating to electricity and water supply is necessary to use the same. Location of the centre has historic importance and would serve the purpose effectively and assist the trust in meeting the demand of the visitors.

Hanumanthanagar (Nisarga Dhama), Mandya

This centre is located 4 km. away from Bharati Nagar near Mandya, which is basically a temple related tourist cum pilgrim centre. This centre is also known as Nisarga Dhama and the facilities created include a deer park enclosure, children's play area, food court, toilet blocks, fountains, water bodies, fish pond, a Raja Mantap, boating pond and an aquarium.

This being managed by a well established and reputed Religious Trust with highly placed office bearers, is well maintained and the amounts released for development of facilities as proposed, have been judiciously utilized. The facilities created are being used by tourists and pilgrims and the centre is able to generate good income. On an average about 200 visitors frequent on weekdays and between 2000 to 5000 on holidays and festivals. Since this centre is just adjacent to the famous temple, pilgrims continue to pour in on almost all holidays and festival days.

In view of heavy influx of visitors on holidays and festivals, additional toilet block is necessary. The existing two units need to be maintained in hygienic conditions.

Since procurement of deer for the deer park appears to be difficult as at present, it may be prudent to convert the deer park into an Aviary stocking with domesticated fowls, and poultry such as geese, turkeys, guinea fowl, etc. Rabbit rearing could also be an alternative.

There is need to adopt a water recycling/ circulation system in the fish pond to maintain cleanliness of the same and avoid heavy mortality of fish.

To meet the additional demand from the visitors on festival days, it is desirable to add some more cottages on a detailed estimate of actual number of such cottages that could be maintained judiciously and with justification of their viability.

It is advantageous to go for border planting along the entrance of the park to enhance the aesthetics of the same. Declaring the eco park as plastic free zone is necessary and the trust should initiate steps in this direction

Since there are no sign boards between the main road and the centre, pilgrims and visitors find it difficult to locate to reach with ease. If adequate number of sign/ direction boards are installed to provide proper direction to the visitors right from the deviation point on Mysore road, it would be highly useful to the tourists.

Kamalapura (Hampi)

The main works incorporated under this project are cottages, kitchen, dining hall, staff quarters, rest room, vehicles for sight seeing and landscaping. The centre is in an easily accessible location and is being used by the tourists of different tastes and ages. This resort is being managed by the Jungle Lodges and Resorts Ltd, (Govt of Karnataka). As per indications, the peak period for tourists is between October and February every year, while lean period is between March and September. The visitors book maintained at the centre shows that the tourists like to visit this spot mainly for (a)

good service food and accommodation, (b) site seeing, bird watching and bear watching arrangements (c) natural greenery and vegetation maintained at the centre.

Discussions with the in-charge of the centre revealed that there is inadequacy of infrastructure to the extent of about 10% as compared to the requirement. Main requirement is a good conference room. Opinions of some of the visitors indicated that the quality of facilities and services is good. Interactions with locals also indicated that the centre has provided opportunities to the local youth.

Suggestions for further improvement include construction of a good conference room, office room and a cloak room.

Belur (Hassan)

In Belur, the Department of Tourism has constructed a road between Belur bus stand and Channakeshava Temple but the work was only done up to a distance of 200 m, from the main temple entry, since there was objections from the Archeological Survey of India. The condition of the road already constructed is good and to the specifications. This has helped the pilgrims reach temple without any difficulty even during rainy season.

Badami

The Department of Tourism has constructed a link road at Badami and the work was executed by the Public Works Department, Government of Karnataka. The main objective of this project was to provide better communication to the tourists among whom a good number of foreigners also visit this historically important and internationally known tourist centre. This work also included earthen road improvement, construction of concrete drain, improvement of connecting road, florescent lighting and improvement of drain near minor bridge.

The work has been carried out as per specifications within the cost estimated for this purpose. Consequent on renovation and improved approach / link road between the town bus stand and the tourist spot, the tourists are in a position to reach to the spot without any difficulty. Interactions with some of the visitors/ groups revealed that this facility has come at a right time and would provide enhanced comfort to those using their own mode of transport. It is observed that the roadside concrete drains needs regular maintenance.

Hotel Mayura, Madikeri

This project was taken up during 2009 with an objective to enhance the capacity, improve facilities and attract more and more visitors and tourists. During summer months and holidays, tourists from different parts of the country as also foreigners visit this centre for rest and recuperation. The project involved provision of facilities such as additional rooms/ utilities, landscaping, electrical works, bore well, conference halls, separate transformer, generator, laundry facilities etc., to meet the growing demand.

An exclusive room is earmarked for an Ayurvedic Treatment centre where a Doctor attends on the tourists interested in seeking advice and treatment.

The works at this centre are complete in all respects and the additional facilities created in this hotel have upgraded its status since the earlier accommodation and ambience was not adequate, including its aesthetic look. With added accommodation, other additional facilities, good facelift and ambience, this hotel has been attracting more and more tourists.

However, there is need to augment occupancy during lean season in order to earn higher income and sustain any higher cost of maintenance. The following are the aspects which need to be looked into:

- Leasing out of hotel on long term basis – the lease amount charged should take into account the total sunk cost and other recurrent costs including cost of monitoring
- Conference halls are presently being used only occasionally. Though some revenue is being generated, there is scope to augment the same through publicity and propaganda. With a number of institutions/ agencies located around Madikeri and other districts like Mangalore, Chickmagalur, Mysore; some publicity programme could boost use of the facilities created.

Overall, the project has produced positive results and investment is justified.

Malpe, near Udupi

The beach resort, located around 6 kilometres from Udupi town, was developed during 2002 and handed over to Malpe Beach Development Committee. Further development work was taken-up during 2009 to provide a parking lot, foot path and a statue of Mahatma Gandhi.

The petty shops have been shifted outside and area between the foot path and the beach is cleared of encroachment. Granite benches are provided around the Circle housing Mahatma Gandhi Statue to facilitate people to rest for a while on visiting the beach area and spending some time there.

In view of good accessibility of the beach, large number of tourists frequent this place, more so, foreigners. The beach resort lacks adequate water supply, sewage facilities, storm water drain, shopping kiosks and staying facilities for those who would like to stay overnight.

Interactions with local and foreign tourists indicated that they love this place because of its serenity, calm & quiet environment away from crowded cities, but yet, closer to mainstream. Further enhancement of facilities and improving the cleanliness of the beach and banning littering of plastic, might go a long way in boosting the image of this resort.

Sakkarebail (Shimoga)

This is an Elephant trailing camp and is managed by the Karnataka Forest Department and is one of the ten such camps. It is essentially a rehabilitation centre for elephants. The theme is mainly to educate the children and other citizen having interest to understand more about nature and wildlife. In this camp, there is a children activity area where children have freedom to learn and play. The facilities created in this camp include stay units (tents), dormitories, kitchen & dining hall, store room, watchmen shed, ticket counter, gardner's sheds, solar electricity, children's play/ activity area.

Since the camp is yet to be opened, no staff is posted except a watchman. In the elephant camp, the Forest Department has positioned adequate number of personnel to man the elephant stock. The centre when operational, would provide gainful employment to good number of local youth.

Since the project works have been completed and accommodation and other facilities are lying idle, it is desirable that the same are thrown open to the public soon. As it is an educative venture, it is suggested that some publicity could be given among the student community/ youth in and around the area, to create awareness of the facilities created & make use of the same.

Based on the studies carried out, the following are the observations/ suggestions:

- ❖ The facilities, in particular the sixteen projects taken up for implementation are mostly completed and are ready to be used by the tourists. Those which are yet to be opened for general public need to be expedited since there is loss of revenue to the State
- ❖ The programmes formulated and implemented by the Department of Tourism are carried out under the administrative supervision and control of the Deputy Commissioner of respective districts (who is the Chairman of District Tourism Committee), such as approval of award of contracts, release of funds, monitoring the progress and periodical review. The present arrangement is working effectively and no bottlenecks/ difficulties are observed.
- ❖ The civil works carried out by respective contractors are in general, satisfactory and are in accordance with the specifications and standards. However, there was some delay in completion of the remaining works at Mekedattu, Udatadi and Shikaripura centers. However, some additional facilities of complementary nature need to be provided to make these centres more attractive and accessible
 - The tourist facilities at Mekedaatu, particularly the Water Weir at the Sangam and others proposed need to be completed early. At the last point of Mekedaatu, shelter for tourists and some resting place is necessary to protect them from rain and sun
 - Additional facilities at Hanumanthnagar as requested by the committee, such as, repairs to existing toilets, additional cottages etc., are to be considered in view of huge influx of tourists. Awareness about the location of this pilgrim centre needs to be highlighted with necessary sign boards and direction posts

- Further improvement of Malpe beach by maintaining cleanliness and ban on littering of plastic and other materials, more utilities/ services might be necessary, as expected by the tourists
- There is need to increase the number of beds and establish a restaurant at the tourist centre at Chitradurga
- Additional facilities like taralaya, pisciculture, sprinkler irrigation system and diversion drain etc., to be created at Sadankere, Dharwad
- Additional facilities such as waterway, ropeway, border planting, aquarium need to be considered at Nruputunga hills, Hubli
- Afforestation programme on the hill range surrounding the lake/ reservoir at Shantisagar, Davangere district may be taken up in association with the Karnataka State Forest Department.
- Official bus stops provided and wide publicity given for Yatri Nivas, Varoor and Sakkarebail Jungle camp & trails.

Chapter 1

1. Introduction

From time immemorial man has exhibited the instinct of searching for new places of pleasure and past time Travelling has been a source of past time and knowledge for the mankind. History is replete with innumerable adventures taken up by men of grit and thirst for finding new locations for past time and pleasure. This instinct has given rise to inculcating the habit of travel and tours to new found areas and locations. Over the years, the frequented spots became tourist attractions only to be converted into tourist centres and destinations. As a result, tourism has transformed into an industry. So, tourism has become a part of life of even a common man. Recent times have witnessed tremendous development of tourism - thanks to technological progress resulting in affordable availability of means of transport and communication across the globe, more importantly, the overall enhancement of economic well being of the people and advancement of education.

1.1 Indian Tourism

India is one of the main tourist destinations of the global tourists with its rich heritage and places of historical importance. Tourism has become one of the major industries earning huge foreign exchange and this is increasing year after year due to increased tourist arrivals into the country. The varied and rich culture and festivals of the country have been attracting large number of tourists from across the globe. As a result of changes in income levels of the people & development of infrastructure, tourist population has been showing higher growth. Consequently, this industry has come to attract entrepreneurs as it provides attractive returns and creates gainful employment. Apart from wage employment, tourism has also provided scope for self employment to large number of persons.

1.2 Tourism in Karnataka

Karnataka, the eighth largest State in India has been ranked as the fourth most popular State in the country for tourism. It is home to 507 of the 3600 centrally protected monuments in India; the largest number after Uttar Pradesh. The State Directorate of Archaeology and Museums protects an additional 752 monuments and another 25,000 monuments are yet to receive protection. Tourism is spread all over the State and mainly centres around the ancient sculptured temples, modern cities, the hill ranges, forests and beaches.

Broadly the four tourist regions (geographically identifiable) are: North Karnataka, the Hill Stations, Coastal Karnataka and South Karnataka regions.

Tourist destinations in the State comprise World heritage centres, Historical locations like Chalukya, Rashtrakuta dynasty, Kadamba dynasty, Deccan Sultanates, Rattas, Forts, places of worship such as, Jain Basadis, Buddhist temples, Shiva temples, Shakti Stal & Temple tanks. In addition, there are other tourist attractions, especially beaches in Coastal Karnataka, Hill stations, National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries, Dams and reservoirs, in southern parts of the state, and Eco-Tourism, Adventure and Outdoor activities & Health care Tourism centres.

1.3 Tourism Infrastructure

Tourism involves activities of persons travelling to and staying outside their usual environment for leisure, business and other purposes. Infrastructure for tourism includes basic infrastructure components like transport facilities (airport, railways, roads, waterways); electricity, water supply & other services; facilities like accommodation, restaurants, recreation, shopping, etc.,. Tourism infrastructure therefore, involves the integrated development of basic infrastructure and amenities along with all tourism facilities in a balanced manner.

With a view to taking advantage of the opportunities for development of tourism not only in the existing tourist centres, but also in new locations, the Department of Tourism, Government of Karnataka has been focusing more on developing infrastructure at all tourist destinations across the State. The Department has formulated a forward looking tourism policy for promotion of tourism related activities in the State. Some of the major projects are being taken up through Public Private Partnership.

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The Government of Karnataka is being assisted by the Government of India in development of tourism with financial assistance. A number of infrastructure facilities are created to serve the swelling tourist traffic. Having invested huge sums in infrastructure, the Government of Karnataka considered it appropriate to evaluate the infrastructure facilities created by the Department during the years 2009 & 2010 by an external agency to have an objective first hand information on the effectiveness of the projects. In all, 16 projects were selected for detailed study. The Indian Resources Information & Management Technologies Ltd., (IN-RIMT) was entrusted with the work (vide letter No. DTR/PLN-2/68/2010-11-3212 dt. 07-12-2010

and agreement dt. 30-12-2010. Accordingly, IN-RIMT conducted the evaluation focusing on the points contained in the Terms of Reference (ToR).

1.4 Objectives

The main objective of the present evaluation is to know the overall impact of the development of infrastructure facilities, document the qualitative & quantitative performance, identification of felt needs of the tourists, enlist major, technical, management and other related problems encountered during project implementation and to suggest changes required, if any.

1.5 Scope of the work

The scope involves study of wide ranging institutions, processes, programmes, facilities and public private participation. The following are the areas of evaluation study:

- Examine whether the places selected for infrastructure have benefited or those proposed would be useful to the tourists, including the adequacy of such facilities created or being created and identify scope for change
- Evaluate whether or not the quality standards are being met by the contractors including the time schedule, identify deficiencies in respect of quality standards as also time lags.
- At community level, assess the impact of the development of the infrastructure facilities on the local areas in terms of increased economic activities/ allied auxiliary activities and expected employment and income generation to the local unemployed youth or entrepreneurs (quantify such benefits wherever feasible and quantifiable)

- More importantly, carry out a tourist opinion-satisfaction survey in selected tourist centres to assess and capture their impressions on the facilities available, their utility and efficacy, including the cost factors (affordability)
- Study and evaluate the programme implementation mechanism put in place by the Department of Tourism, more particularly, the present monitoring and control aspects relating to implementation, and identify lacunae/ weakness of such a system
- Examine whether the contractor is adhering to the time line set out to complete the building works
- Examine the quality of the infrastructure created
- Examine whether the tourism developments in the state has helped or going to help the state and country in particular
- Gather opinion/ feedback from the actual users of the tourist facilities.

The issues covered in the evaluation also include:

- Examine the nature and effectiveness of the monitoring mechanisms of these projects
- Examine whether the mechanism of monitoring is quality effective
- Examine whether the manpower and other support system engaged for maintenance of these facilities are sufficient
- Examine whether the local administration has been effectively combined with these development programmes
- Examine the availability of baseline tourism data for the area and is there any increase in tourism activity after the intervention

Chapter 2

2. Methodology

The scope of the study covers a wide gamut of aspects and therefore, an elaborate methodology was put in place for carrying out the study, which included :

- a) Collection and analysis of relevant information from the Departments concerned at central office level as also at unit level. This was done using comprehensive questionnaires/ schedules/ checklists.
- b) A multi disciplinary team of experts was deployed to carry out the study.
- c) Field studies were conducted in all the sixteen locations under which direct one to one discussions were held with the in-charges of the units/ centres to elicit information regarding the start of the project, physical and financial achievements, status of the project (where it was in the process of completion), revenues generated, and other management aspects
- d) Tourist opinion surveys in centres where the projects were completed fully and the facilities were opened to the general public
- e) Physical verification of the quality and quantity of the budgeted work against which actual work/ progress achieved, was carried out
- f) Interactions with local communities were held to elicit their opinion about the centre and impressions gathered from them

Limitations of the study

- a) Incomplete work/ work under process in some centers was a limitation to assess the actual benefit availed by the tourists

- b) Many structures/ facilities created were completed but are yet to be opened for public use. In the circumstances, tourist opinion surveys were limited only to those already completed and where tourists were using such facilities.

Chapter 3

3. Study of Tourist Centres

The study covered 16 centres in eight categories where works were taken up during the two financial years i.e., 2008-09 and 2009-10, as detailed below:

Sl. No.	Type	Locations
1	Tourist facilities	Chitradurga (2009) Sadhanakere, Dharward (2009) Meke Daatu, Kanakapura (2010) Nrupatunga Hills, Hubli (2010)
2	Yatri Nivas and other facilities	Shantisagar, Davangere (2009) Kuruvatti, Bellary(2010) Varur, Dharwad (2009)
3	Dormitories	Uduthadi, Shimoga (2010) Shikaripura, Shimoga (2010)
4	Eco Tourism	Hanumanthanagar, Mandya (2009) Kamalapura, Hampi (2010)
5	Link Road Development	Belur, Hassan District (2009) Badami, Bagalkot District (2009)
6	Beach Resort	Malpe, Udupi (2010)
7	Hotel Upgradation	Madikeri (2009)
8	Jungle Camps and trails	Sakkarebailu, Shimoga (2010)

The geographical location of the above tourist centers are shown in Fig.1.

As may be observed from the above, eight projects were approved and taken up during 2009 and another 8 were taken up during 2010. Keeping in view the year of start of the project and the type of facilities created, an attempt is made to analyse the status of each of the facilities listed above (in respective groups)

3.1 TOURIST FACILITIES

Four projects were taken up of which two were started in 2009 and two in the year 2010. Projects at Sadhanakere in Dharwad and Chitradurga were taken up in 2009 while Mekedaatu, near Kanakapura and Nrupathunga hills at Hubli were taken up during the next year. The facilities created/ proposed and the details are given below:

3.1.1 Chitradurga

Chitradurga is a small town situated in southern Karnataka and is the headquarters of Chitradurga district. The place is also known as the “Stone Fortress” or the “Kallina Kote”. Apart from the fort, Chitradurga is also known for its Chandravalli caves ; which is an ancient archaeological site located near a big lake.

In Chitradurga, the Department of Tourism has constructed a Yatri Nivas during 2009-10 at a cost of Rs 2.55 crores against an estimated cost of Rs 1.85 crores. The facilities created include Dormitory with facilities to accommodate 8 + 5 beds. In addition, an Yoga cum meditation centre, reception and restaurant have been provided as adjunct to the main facilities. However, the restaurant is yet to be started.

Accessibility is good as a result of which frequenting of guests is higher; an estimated 2000 tourists including students visit this place and make use of the facilities.

This facility is being managed by the Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation (KSTDC). Annual revenue generated from the facilities (mainly by way of room rent is around Rs 2.86 lakh. Peak season for tourists visit starts from April and goes up to December every year. The Centre is staffed with a Manager, an Accountant and support / service staff.

Observations

- Going by the number of visitors, there is need to increase the number of beds in the centre.
- Starting of the restaurant is highly essential to facilitate visitors.
- It may also be necessary to provide recreation facilities to the visitors in order to attract more tourists.
- Overall working of the centre is rated as good but publicity needs to be intensified to create awareness among the tourists. Since Chitradurga has a number of places of historical importance, any additional facility provided here would benefit the tourists who frequent this district.
- All the civil works have been completed and the quality of the structures created is as per standard specifications.

3.1.2 Sadhanakeri, Dharwad

The tourist facilities created in Sadhanakeri park area of Dharwad town were completed during 2009 in an extent of 8 acres and at a cost of Rs 3.58 crores, against the estimated cost of Rs 4.10 crores. Main facilities created are need based and include

- Entry arch & foot path
- Seating (benches)
- Fountain
- Musical fountain (under completion)
- Toilet units

- Gazebos (3)

Boating facilities have been provided and the tank is desilted to facilitate smooth operation of boating. A bore well has been provided in the park area for meeting the water demand. However, due to drainage problems, boating is limited to select areas of the tank. Desilting of tanks has resulted in better management of the tank and boating.

Observations

- Overall, the facilities created under the project meet the demand of the visitors. An average of around 200 to 500 persons, mainly students/ youth, frequent this centre.
- All the civil work executed is of good quality and complete in all respects.
- Additional facilities required and suggested are (1) a taralaya (2) pisciculture (3) additional irrigation facilities through sprinkler (4) Border planting with shelter belts with wind break species (5)
- At the entry point, there is drainage problem (sewage line flowing into the tank in rainy season). This needs to be addressed by constructing a diversion drain for sewage water immediately.
- There is shortage of drinking water for the visitors within the centre.

3.1.3 Mekedaatu

This centre is located near the confluence of two rivers, namely Kaveri and Arakavati, about 90 km. from Bangalore, via Kanakapura. At Mekedaatu, the Kaveri runs through a deep, narrow ravine of granitic rock. The river which is more than 150 m. wide at the confluence (at Sangama) flows through the hardly 10-15 m.

wide gorge at Mekedaatu. It is said that a goat could leap over it, giving the falls the name “Goat’s leap” or “Meke daatu”

At this place, the Department has constructed the following:

- Hotel building with 13 rooms, and 2 dormitories with a capacity of 36 beds (18 each)
- Reception counter
- Eleven shops

The eleven petty traders are proposed to be shifted in the shops constructed, to make way for smooth flow of tourist and vehicular traffic.

The work is fully completed and the hotel would be ready to operate in a month or so. In view of heavy influx of tourists particularly during holidays (the number goes up to 500-600 (comprising mainly students/ young working class) while it is around 100-150 on other days), there is need to create adequate parking facilities also.

The other works taken up/ proposed are:

- Seating (Rs. 11 lakhs)
- Road work (Rs. 20 lakhs) : Yet to be done
- Pathways and lighting (Rs. 20 lakh); Yet to be done
- Benches (Rs. 5 lakhs); Yet to be done
- Gate and compound (Rs. 10 lakh); Yet to be done
- 2 Water overflow Weir (Rs. 381 lakh) ; Work under progress; details of item wise cost were not available

Observations

- A vehicle entry fee of Rs. 50/- for buses and Rs. 20/- for cars is being collected from the owners who park their vehicles near the river (at Sangama). No parking arrangement nor any shade is erected. The entire area is full of garbage and left overs and plastic package materials. Overall picture of this centre is very disappointing in spite of being an important tourist centre and frequented by both local and other visitors.
- At the Meke daatu valley point (which is the final point for the visitors) no arrangements are available for sitting nor is there any shade to protect the tourists from sun or rain. The following improvements are felt necessary:
 - Parking lot for the vehicles at the entrance or in some strategic approachable place
 - Lighting, roads, gates
 - Sitting/ shade facilities at the Meke daatu point,
 - Protection fence/ arrangement at the Meke daatu last point.
- There is no resting roof at the Meke daatu point. Presently there is only one circular umbrella type roof with elevated platform which is being used by vendors. Visitors are forced to spend time observing in hot sun, or rain during the rainy season. There is need to provide a suitable shelter space to accommodate between 200-300 visitors.
- The Road connecting Sangam from Kanakapura is poor and needs to be improved since an average of 200-300 vehicles pass through the stretch.
- Presently, people use their own mode of transport since there is no state transport facility. There is urgent need to provide bus service between

Bangalore and Meke daatu (from Kempegowda bus station and K.R. Market), especially during holidays.

3.1.4 Nrupathunga Hills, Hubli

Nrupatunga hills is a hillock located on the north-eastern part of Hubli, which offers a pleasing panoramic view of Hubli City and its surroundings. It is a popular location for morning-walkers and especially in the evenings for the youth of Hubli to spend time. It is also the place for a sunset view. It is the highest hill station of the twin cities Hubli-Dharwad, with a Devi Temple at the top.

The project here, covered development of facilities in about 8 acres of land on Nrupathunga Betta (hillock) in Hubli. The cost of the facilities provided was Rs. 126.74 lakhs and the project started during 2009-10 . The works were executed by Dharwar Nirmiti Kendra, which include :

- Pavers and kerb stones for pathway
- Electrification and lighting works
- Landscaping (i) & (ii), gardening, bore well and water supply
- Ornamental works of arch and hand railings
- Gazebos
- Canteen, toilet blocks,. overhead tank,
- Retaining wall, ornamental basewall,
- Watchmen, electric room, sloped pathway steps
- Water falls, stone fountain, statues of animals etc.,

All the works executed are good and as per specifications and are fully complete in all respects. Visitors are making use of these facilities and on an average, between 200 to 500 visitors frequent this centre.

Observations

In view of increase in number of visitors and their expectations, there is need to provide additional facilities such as:

- Creation of water body in the foot hill region (behind Sri Sai Baba Temple)
- Yatri Nivas
- Stalls
- Ropeways
- Dhyan Mandir for those who like to meditate
- Border planting (in association with Forest Department)
- Vermi compost unit
- Other facilities such as deer park, snake park, aquarium etc.,
- Sprinkler system
- Solar lamps
- Additional irrigation facilities to maintain lawn and sustainability of greenery created so far.
- It is also suggested that the entire area should be declared as “No Plastic zone” in view of influx of large number of visitors frequenting the centre . Hawkers and traders presently use plastic bags/ carry bags for various sales / parcel purposes. Such plastic material is often dumped randomly creating environmental hazards.

General Observations

The tourist facilities provided at the above places are good but not adequate. There is need to provide additional facilities as suggested and felt by the visitors. A small token entry fee could be thought of at places like Meke daatu (even Rs. 2/- per person), which would generate resources and could be used to provide better services.

3.2 YATRI NIVAS

In all, three Yatri Nivas centres were covered under the study viz., Shanti Sagar (Davangere), Varur (Dharwad) and Kurvatti (Bellary). The first and second were funded during 2009 and the third during 2010. Status of the individual centres is discussed below:

3.2.1 Shanti Sagar (Sulekere), Davangere district

Shanti Sagar (also known as Sulekere) is located about 40 km. from Davangere and is the biggest lake in Karnataka with a diameter of 45 km. surrounded by hills and Bhadra canal system.

This project at Shanti Sagar was originally sanctioned during 2007-08 but was inaugurated during 2009-10. The work was executed by KRIDL (Land Army), Davangere. The work is completed with the following facilities (at a cost of Rs. 500.00 lakhs):

- Five dormitories with 8 bed each
- Two VIP Rooms
- Reception
- Kitchen

Provision for a garden/ park is made, but this is yet to be taken up.

At the bank of the Sulikere tank, by the side of the road, work on turfing, path ways, cruising is in progress and it is expected to be completed within the next six months. Civil works are as per standards and specifications.

Observations

The works for creation of the above facilities have already been completed but are yet to be handed over for facilitating the use by the visitors. A study of the structures completed brought out the following:

- Staircase window glass panel are broken/ frame is disturbed.
- Store room window glass and terrace door not fitted
- Fittings like geyser etc., and solar connection not provided

Since the facilities are yet to be used, the nearby villagers are not in a position to assess the benefits to them. However, many young entrepreneurs indicated that they would have opportunities to set up one or other enterprise for their livelihood purpose. In view of its natural panoramic view, it is going to serve as a very good tourist centre, in future.

The Department of Tourism may suggest Forest Department to plan and take up afforestation programme in the hill range bounded by the reservoir, which would increase the greenery in the surroundings.

3.2.2 Yatri Nivas, Varoor (Hubli taluk)

Varoor is a Jain pilgrimage centre located on the National Highway No. 4 in Dharwad district of Karnataka. It is about 14 km. from Hubli. This project at Varoor was sanctioned during 2009-10 for an estimated cost of Rs. 2.97 crores. The facilities proposed are (i) Dormitories (ii) Studio Rooms and (iii) Dining Hall.

The facilities are located very near the famous Jain Temple at Varoor. The purpose of Yatri nivas was to provide lodging and food facilities to tourists and pilgrims visiting the Jain temple. The work was taken up during 2009-10 and the contract awarded to Dharwar Nirmitti Kendra. The building consists of ground + 3 floors (some

part cellar also). It is understood that the Ground floor and cellar was constructed using funds from Department of Kannada and Culture.

Presently, first floor is at finishing stage and over 80% of the work had been completed, when the consultants visited the spot, with dormitories and rooms nearing completion. Electrification, plumbing, white washing and furnishing work was to be taken up and it is expected that the entire works would be completed by July-August 2011.

The second floor roof concrete is partially completed. The reasons given by the contractor were (i) slow release of funds & (ii) labour shortage.

The civil works are as per specifications but need to be improved wherever necessary.

A meeting with the 'Jain Muni' in charge of the temple revealed that the accommodation presently available with the temple trust is too inadequate. The Yatri Nivas and other facilities created by the Department of Tourism nearby would be fully utilized in view of visit of large number of pilgrims who set out their journey from Gujarat / Maharashtra and Rajasthan on a circular route, covering Jain temples at different places and ending their journey at Sravana Belagola, near Hassan. The tourists to this place mainly compose of middle and senior citizens on pilgrimage. This centre will alleviate shortage of facilities to some extent in meeting the demand especially during pilgrim seasons.

The Important occasions when tourist traffic is at peak are:

- Varshika Utsava- 3 days when thousands of people converge at this place
- Mastakabhisheka- 3 days
- Dasha Lakshana Dhama - 10 days; a few thousands gather
- Navaratri - 9 days, when few thousands gather

- Mahaveer Jayanti - 6 days, few thousands

Interactions with a few pilgrims indicated that construction of Yatri nivas at this spot would certainly help them and more and more tourists would be inclined to visit this temple enroute their journey to Shravana Belagola.

Observations

- Construction work is nearing completion requiring quality finishing.
- Canteen facilities need to be started immediately in order to provide food and beverages to the visiting pilgrims since there are no eateries nearby the vicinity.
- There also is a need to request the Transport Department (KSRTC) to give an official bus stop with shelter. Presently, buses do not stop at this point and much depends on the conductor and driver's mood and attitude and official bus stop would certainly help the pilgrims. Use of private mode of transport would be expensive and middle class/ ordinary pilgrims may not be able to afford to use the same.
- The Temple Trust also runs an ITI / Polytechnic nearby, and large number of students attend the classes. At times, they need accommodation and food which if provided, would help them and save them of the time and money spent on their travel to the nearest eatery or lodge.
- Publicity and propaganda might be necessary
- Landscaping of garden would add to aesthetic value of the area

3.2.3 Yatri Nivas, Kuravatti

This spot is located in Kuravatti of Huvinahadagali taluk of Bellary District, in the vicinity of Sri. Mallikarjuna Swamy Temple. The estimated cost of the facilities proposed is Rs 55.26 lakhs and the work is assigned to the Karnataka Land Army Corporation. The work was started during September 2009 itself, and during the visit, only about 95% of the estimated works were completed.

Facilities proposed are:

- Multipurpose hall (dormitory)
- VIP Room
- Kitchen
- Small hall

The civil works so far completed are as per designs approved.

Observations

- Since the centre is in the vicinity of the temple which is a famous local pilgrim centre, there would be regular flow of tourists and pilgrims to the temple . It would definitely also create local employment opportunities.
- Since the centre is yet to be opened for public, its impact on the local population as also the type and volume of tourist traffic could not be ascertained.
- The civil works so far completed are as per designs approved.

3.3 DORMITORIES

Two centres, one at Shikaripura and other at Uduthadi (both in Shimoga District) were covered under this study. The facilities created and present status of these centres are discussed below:

3.3.1 Shikaripura

This project was initiated during 2008-09 and the proposal is to construct the following:

- Dormitory, 5 Nos., of 8 bed capacity to accommodate 40 persons
- Two VIP rooms, fully furnished with kitchen, dining, toilets
- Park with lighting and water fountain
- A Shiva Statue (36 feet in height)
- Toilets and bath room facilities
- Kitchen, pantry and shop
- Reception counter
- At the park, children's play section, and an elevated stand for watching games by tourists/ visitors. A musical fountain (20x 40 ft) is also a part of the park.

This centre is located near the APMC yard at Shikaripura Town and in the vicinity of Sri. Hucchharaya Temple, which is frequented by large number of visitors especially on festival occasions. An estimated 5000 visitors come to this park on those days and spend their leisure time there.

The works were contracted to a private contractor. In addition, another facility i.e., tank with boating arrangement/ facility was also included which is being carried out by another contractor and the work is nearing completion.

Except land scaping, all other works are completed and are in accordance with the approved plan with minor deviations. There is delay in some civil works construction due to water stagnation problem.

This centre is expected to cater to the needs of the visitors with facility of eatery, children's play and rest area.

It was understood that this centre would be highly useful when opened for public in view of visit of pilgrims during Dakshinayana and provide facilities for their stay and food.

The centre was inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Minister but it yet to be thrown open to public.

There is a proposal to provide boating facilities in the just adjacent Huchharayanakere. When completed, this will add to the tourist attraction.

Observations

- This centre is strategically located and can attract large number of visitors when thrown open to public. Since it is yet to be opened, interviews with tourists could not be carried out. However, informal interactions with some of the residents of the area indicated that they are waiting for the centre to open and opined that the facility will be attractive and useful to the locals as well as tourists. However, some part of civil works (stadium, electrical works) was under progress.
- Even though the centre is officially inaugurated, it is yet to be made available to the locals. Delay in completion of some works particularly in the park area

need to be addressed to immediately. Otherwise, this centre has high potential of tourist utility and quality of civil works is to the specifications.

3.3.2 Uduthadi

Uduthadi is about 7 km. from Shikaripura town and is the birth place of Akkanahadevi, the famous kannada poetess.

This centre is in the vicinity of Akka Mahadevi Trust / temple, and is located little interior to the main road. The objective of creating this facility is to cater to the pilgrims visiting the Akka Mahadevi temple nearby, where large number of persons frequent and the present accommodation at the trust building is inadequate to meet the demand. The facilities proposed and completed are:

- Two VIP Rooms
- Two dormitory to accommodate 8 persons each
- Kitchen, dining and toilets
- Fencing and electrification

The structures are completed (except for compound wall) and meet the standard specifications, but the centre is yet to be handed over to the Akkamahadevi Trust. Though the building is completed, no electricity or water connection is provided. The trust is not willing to take over unless these facilities are provided. A study and interaction with one of the trustees indicated that due to religious importance, influx of tourist comprises mainly pilgrims. It is also understood that facilities are also being used for hosting seminars, workshops and other religious function, which generate some revenue to the trust. In view of this, the dormitories provided in the complex would be highly useful.

Though this centre was inaugurated by the Honorable Chief Minister during 2009, it is yet to be handed over to the trust for the above reasons.

Observations

- The centre would be able to provide some good facilities to the visitors when handed over to the Trust.
- Completion of the remaining works relating to electricity and water supply is necessary to use the same.
- It is not known whether the fees/ rentals collected / to be collected would be shared between the Trust and Tourism Department. Clear indications were not available.
- Location of the centre has historic importance and would serve the purpose effectively and assist the trust in meeting the demand of the visitors.

3.4 ECO-TOURISM

Eco-tourism is responsible travel to fragile, pristine & usually protected areas. The purpose of eco-tourism is to educate the traveler, provide funds for ecological conservation and directly benefit economic development. Eco-tourism typically involves travel to destinations where flora, fauna and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Two eco-tourism centres at Hanumanthnagar (near Mandya) and Kamalapur (Bellary) were covered under this study. Details are discussed below:

3.4.1 Hanumanthanagar (Nisarga Dhama), Mandya

This centre is located about 4 km. away from Bharati Nagar (K M Doddi) near Mandya. This is basically a temple related tourist cum pilgrim centre. It has a gross area of 8.5 acres and falls on the circuitous route comprising Malai Mahadeshwar, Somanathapura, Muttatti & Shivanasamudra falls (popularly known as 'Bluff'). An amount of Rs. 2.44 crores was earmarked for the development of a number of facilities in this centre. This centre is also known as 'Nisarga Dhama' and the facilities created include a park with the following:

- Deer park enclosure (no deer at present)
- Children play area
- Food court
- Toilet blocks
- Fountains
- Water bodies
- Fish pond
- Raja mantap

- Boating pond
- Aquarium house
 - The deer park enclosure has a chain link fence and is ready for housing deers. However, due to strict regulations of the Government of India under protection of wild life, deer stocking has become difficult due to non grant of permission by the Forest Department.
 - Children play area is equipped with swings, see-saws, jungle gym and other play equipments and is well maintained .
 - The food court is leased out to vendors
 - Adequate number of dust bins are put in place at different locations for dumping any bit or pieces of paper or plastic, food wrappers and left over's
 - The toilet block has two units one old and the other newly constructed. The old is not maintained properly as it appears to be in disuse
 - All the fountains installed in the park were in good and running condition
 - Except fish pond, the other water bodies are maintained properly, more particularly the boating pond
 - Raja Mantap is a Gazebo with good view of fountain and park
 - Boating pond occupies frontage in relation to the Bharatinagar - Mandya road. It has sufficient water and has fibre reinforced plastic pedal boats presently being used to provide ferrying and boating facilities to the visitors. This also generates good income to the trust.
 - The aquarium has a small stock of ornamental fish

Observations

- This being managed by a well established and reputed Religious Trust with highly placed office bearers, is well maintained and the amounts released for development of facilities as proposed, have been judiciously utilized .
- The facilities created are being used by tourists and pilgrims and the centre is able to generate good income.
- On an average about 200 visitors frequent on weekdays and between 2000 to 5000 on holidays and festivals. Since this centre is just adjacent to the famous temple, pilgrims continue to pour in on almost all holidays and festival days.
- In general, the facilities created in this centre are as per standard specification and are completed.
- The tourists comprise all ages, mainly youth interested in park, middle and senior citizens for pilgrimage and health conscious visitors on account of availability of naturopathy centre situated within the temple complex.
- The canteen facility created is not being used and as a result the likely revenue generation is lost.

Suggestions

- In view of heavy influx of visitors on holidays and festivals, additional toilet block is necessary . In addition, the existing two units need to be maintained in hygienic conditions. Some repairs to existing units also is necessary

- Since procurement of deer appears to be difficult as at present, it may be prudent to convert this into an Aviary stocking with domesticated fowls, and poultry such as geese, turkeys, guinea fowl, etc. Alternatively, rabbit rearing could also be an alternative.
- There is need to adopt water recycling/ circulation system in the fish pond to maintain cleanliness of the same and avoid heavy mortality of fish
- To meet the additional demand from the visitors on festival days, it is desirable to add some more cottages on a detailed estimate of actual number of such cottages that could be maintained judiciously and with justification of their viability.
- It is advantageous to go for border planting along the entrance of the park to enhance the aesthetics of the same
- Declaring the eco park as plastic free zone is necessary and the trust should initiate steps in this direction
- Since there are no sign boards between the main road and the centre, pilgrims and visitors find it difficult to locate and reach with ease. If adequate number of sign / direction boards are installed to provide proper direction to the visitors right from the deviation point on Mysore road, it would be highly useful to the tourists.

3.4.2 Kamalapura (Hampi)

The project was initiated during the financial year 2010-11 and the main works incorporated under this project include:

- Cottages
- Kitchen

- Dining hall – ‘Gol Ghar’
- Landscaping
- Staff quarter
- Drivers rest room
- Vehicles for sight seeing

The cottages comprise (i) 20 Air conditioned cottages and (ii) 2 Air conditioned Royal cottages. Overall, the facilities created and completed are as per specifications and standards.

The centre is in an easily accessible location and is being used by the tourists of different tastes and ages. The resort has provided accommodation facilities for the tourists for as many as 938 bed nights during the period August 2010 - February 2011. Occupancy during this period is 17%.

This centre is being managed by the Jungle Lodges and Resorts Ltd, (Government of Karnataka). The unit has a Manager, a Clerk-cum-Accountant, a Gardner, three food and beverage staff and an attendant boy. All the positions are filled with local youth.

As per indications, the peak period for tourists is between October and February every year, while lean period is between March and September.

Between August 2010 and February 2011, this centre had generated a revenue of Rs 21.86 lakh represented by Cottages (Rs. 17.75 lakhs), catering (Rs. 3.45 lakh), other miscellaneous receipts (Rs. 0.66 lakh).

The organisation pursues most modern publicity systems like websites,, participation at National and International travel fairs and road shows, promotion of major tour operators, and travel agents, distribution of publicity material and also gets into corporate marketing.

The visitors book maintained at the centre shows that the tourists like to visit this spot mainly for (a) good service food and accommodation, (b) site seeing, bird watching and bear watching arrangements (c) natural greenery and vegetation maintained at the centre.

It is observed that tourists who visit this facility comprise mostly elite class and those liking adventure tourism.

Discussions with the in-charge of the centre revealed that there is inadequacy of infrastructure to the extent of about 10% as compared to the requirement. Main requirement is a good conference room.

Opinions of some of the visitors indicated that the quality of facilities and services is good.

Interactions with locals also indicated that the centre has provided opportunities to the local youth in many ways, like

- Direct employment to the localites
- Self employment opportunities for the local producers of vegetables, poultry products, etc.,
- Use of local labour for regular gardening activities.

Observations and suggestions

- The centre is working on sound commercial principles and has successfully attracted visitors
- Though the average occupancy of the accommodation is not very encouraging, revenues from other floating tourists have compensating effect on the working of this centre
- The centre has provided employment opportunities - both wage employment and self employment to the local people

Suggestions for further improvement are:

- construction of a good conference room
- construction of an office room
- construction of a cloak room.

3.5 LINK ROADS

Two such projects were covered under this study viz., (i) at Belur in Hassan District & (ii) at Badami in Bagalkot District.

3.5.1 Belur (Hassan)

Belur is a small town located on the bank of River Yagachi, in Hassan District. It was the early capital of the Hoysala Empire and is considered as “Banaras of South”, also known as “Dakshina Varanasi”. The main attraction in Belur is the “Chennakeshava Temple”.

In Belur, the Department of Tourism has constructed a pucca road between Belur Bus stand and Channakeshava Temple. The cost of the project is Rs. 165.00 lakhs. The length of the road is 1.6 km., with a width of 19.5 m. at the beginning but this keeps on changing depending on the road width originally done, like 16 m., 12.2 m. etc.,. The work has been assigned to a private contractor during the month of March 2009. Originally the project was to link the road up to the main entrance of the temple. Work was held up on account of objections from the Archeological Survey of India (Government of India), since the area belonged to the temple is under the management and control of Archeological Survey of India (ASI). The ASI suggested that the road construction be stopped at a distance of 200 m. from the main temple entry and therefore, there is some 200 m length of gap left.

The project was later revised since additional work was involved on account of deviation . Road surrounding the temple was taken up wherever permitted leading to additional works. Revised estimate for additional amount of Rs 25.03 lakhs has been sent (for 400 additional meters involving construction around the temple and extending the right side road to join the main road some 200 metres from the back side of the temple) and the approval is awaited. This was mainly due to

public demand that the surrounding road be constructed in lieu of the 200 metres of road length (given up due to GOI objections).

Originally planned road is completed with the exclusion of 200 metres as suggested by ASI and instead 400 additional meters of road is proposed for which a revised estimate of Rs 25.03 lakhs is submitted.

Observations:

- The condition of the road already constructed is good and to the specifications and completed as per schedule.
- In view of the international importance of this centre, there is regular and large volume of tourist traffic (including good number of international tourists).
- Creation of the link road has alleviated the drainage and water logging problems of the temple surroundings and easy access is facilitated, mainly in rainy season.

3.5.2 Badami

Badami is in the Bagalkot district and the place is famous for rock cut / cave temples and other structural temples. It is located at a distance of about 30 km. from Bagalkot and about 500 km. from Bangalore. The Department of Tourism has constructed a link road at Badami during 2009-10 at a cost of Rs 45.00 lakhs. And the work was executed by the Public Works Department, Government of Karnataka.

The main objective of this project was to provide better communication to the tourists among whom a good number of foreigners also visit this historically important and internationally known tourist centre. The work was completed

during October 2010 at an expenditure of Rs 42.99 lakhs. This work also includes renovation of drainage system including lighting facilities. The following works have been carried out:

- Earthen road improvement
- Concrete drain construction
- Improvement of connecting road
- Improvement of drain near minor bridge;
- Florescent lighting

The work has been carried out as per specifications within the cost estimated for this purpose.

Consequent on renovated and improved approach / link road between the town bus stand and the tourist spot, the tourists are in a position to reach to the spot without any difficulty.

Interactions with some of the visitors/ groups revealed that this facility has come at a right time and would provide enhanced comfort to those using their own mode of transport.

Overall, this project has boosted the image of the tourist location.

Observations

- The road is not well maintained and the kerb stone along the road not finished.
- The roadside concrete drains are filled with debris (plastic, sand, stone etc.) and needs regular maintenance.

3.6 UPGRADATION OF HOTELS

3.6.1 Hotel Mayura, Madikeri

This project was taken up during the year 2009. Madikeri is one of the important centres of tourist attraction and good number of tourists frequent this place for its cool climate and environs. During summer and holidays, tourists from different parts of the country as also foreigners visit this centre for rest and recuperation. The main objective of the project was to enhance the existing capacity, improve facilities and attract more and more visitors and tourists to the centre.

The project involved provision of the following facilities:

- 16 additional rooms
- Utilities
- Landscaping
- Electrical works
- Bore well
- Generator set
- Separate transformer
- Two conference halls
- Laundry facilities

An exclusive room is earmarked for an Ayurvedic Treatment centre where a Doctor attends on the tourists interested in seeking advice and treatment. Since many of the tourists from outside the country are more health conscious, this facility is mainly being used by them.

The works are complete in all respects (costs details were not provided and hence no analysis could be carried out). The additional facilities created in this

hotel have upgraded its status since the earlier accommodation and ambience was not adequate, including its aesthetic look .

Occupancy of accommodation ranges between 40 per cent in lean season to as high as 100 percent during peak season, among whom about 10-15% are foreigners.

There are three categories of accommodation available

- Suit
- Executive rooms
- Ordinary rooms

The earlier dormitory was not in demand by tourists since majority of the tourists visiting this spot prefer privacy and independent facilities and would not mind paying little higher for this purpose.

Out of two conference halls, one is rented out on a longer term basis while the other is retained for being offered to other tourists/ institutions who wish to host seminars/ workshops/ meetings/ training programmes etc., Both are being used only occasionally.

The hotel is leased out on an annual lease basis.

Observations

- With added accommodation, other additional facilities, good facelift and ambience, this hotel has been attracting more and more tourists.
- The ambience is very good and conducive for rest and recuperation and this is being used by the tourists. However, there is need to augment occupancy during lean season in order to earn higher income and sustain any higher cost of maintenance. Following are the aspects which need to be looked into:

- a) Leasing out of hotel on long term basis – the lease amount charged should take into account the total sunk cost and other recurrent costs including cost of monitoring
- b) Conference halls are presently being used only occasionally. Though some revenue is being generated, there is scope to augment the same through publicity and propaganda. With a number of institutions/ agencies located around Madikeri and other districts like Mangalore, Chickmagalur, Mysore; some publicity programme could boost use of the facilities created.
- c) Overall, the project has produced positive results and investment is justified.

3.7 IMPROVEMENT OF BEACH RESORT

3.7.1 Malpe, near Udupi

The beach resort, located around 6 kilometres from Udupi town, was developed during 2002 and handed over to Malpe Beach Development Committee.

Further, some more developmental works were taken-up during 2009 and work has been completed. The facilities include:

- Vehicle parking lot
- Foot path
- Circle and Mahatma Gandhi statue

The existing petty shops in the area have been shifted outside and area between the foot path and the beach is cleared of encroachment. Granite benches are provided around the Circle housing Mahatma Gandhi Statue to facilitate people to rest for a while on visiting the beach area and spending some time there.

The main revenue generation comes from fees collected for vehicle parking. The collection of fees is outsourced to a local 'Bhajana Mandali' which has about 65 members. This has resulted in generation of local employment in addition to generating some income to the committee.

In view of good accessibility of the beach, large number of tourists frequent this place, more so, foreigners. An estimated 1000 foreigners are reported to be visiting this beach annually, and around 500 use cruising and boating facilities available.

Peak months for tourist arrivals are October to May and lean months are from November to April.

The beach resort lacks some major facilities such as:

- sewage facility
- adequate water supply
- shopping kiosks
- storm water drain
- stay facilities for those wishing to spend a night or two near the beach.

Observations

- Facilities created are presently being used by tourists but additional facilities might be required as listed above. Better facilities could boost image of this resort and attract more and more tourists from other countries and help earn foreign exchange
- Random interactions with local and foreign tourists indicated that they love this place because of its serenity and calm & quiet environment away from crowded cities, but yet, closer to mainstream .
- Among the visitors, majority are highly qualified and belong to upper echelons of the society. As such, their expectations are high and there is a tendency of comparing with other beaches within and outside the country. In the light of this, further enhancement of facilities might go a long way in boosting the image of this resort, particularly;
 - Improve cleanliness of the beach
 - Ban littering of plastic and other material
 - Provide more utilities and services like shops, etc.,

3.8 JUNGLE CAMPS & TRAILS

3.8.1 Sakkarebail (Shimoga)

This is located about 14 km. away from Shimoga town with good accessibility. This is an Elephant trailing camp and is managed by the Karnataka Forest Department and is one of the ten such camps, which is essentially a rehabilitation centre for elephants. This camp was inaugurated during 2009 by the Honorable Chief Minister of Karnataka, but is yet to be opened for public.

The theme is mainly to educate the children and other citizen having interest to understand more about nature and wildlife. In this camp, there is a children activity area where children have freedom to learn and play. The facilities created in this camp include:

- Tents (stay units) - 10 each with different theme
- Solar electricity
- Dormitory to accommodate about 10 inmates
- Four trails - each trail is unique
- GPS Tracks
- Kitchen
- Dining hall
- Store room
- Watchman shed
- Ticket counter
- Gardner's shed
- Children activity area

➤ Trails for activity

The works are completed on schedule and as per expected standards & quality. An internal road needs to be asphalted.

Since the camp is yet to be opened, no staff is posted except a watchman. In the elephant camp, the Forest Department has positioned adequate number of personnel to man the elephant stock.

The centre when operational, would provide gainful employment to good number of local youth, mainly in the following areas

- Room attendants
- Trek guides
- Food and beverage staff
- Other self employment outside the camp like petty stalls, vendors and guides etc.

It was seen that this place is frequented by international tourists visiting nearby centres and forms a part of the package. This place also attracts large number of students around Shimoga as part of educational excursion.

A quick survey of a group of foreign tourists who visited the Elephant camp indicated that they like the place very much and would suggest their countrymen to make it a point to visit this camp.

Since the centre is yet to be opened, its impact on the local communities and others can be assessed only after a while .

Suggestions

- Since the project works have been completed and accommodation and other facilities are lying idle, it is desirable that the same is thrown open to the public as soon as possible.
- This camp is on the main road but there is no official bus stop at the spot. Only request stops are provided by the KSRTC. It is desirable that official stoppage facility is provided nearby.
- Since the facilities are ready, it is suggested that some publicity could be given among the student communities / youth in and around the town and other places (preferably by distribution of hand outs and use of other media, direct sales promotion through contacts with the school managements / institutions). Since this is an educative venture, unless awareness is created, it might go unnoticed.

Chapter 4

4 CONCLUSIONS & SUGGESTIONS

Tourism is developing rapidly than anticipated with enhanced economic status and higher levels of education across the Country and State, in general. Therefore, there is need to recognize the potential and respond to the emerging demand. In view of this, based on the studies carried out at the 16 centres where the Department of Tourism has created infrastructure facilities, following are the observations & recommendations:

- ❖ The facilities, in particular the sixteen projects taken up for implementation are mostly completed and are ready to be used by the tourists. Those which are yet to be opened for general public need to be expedited since there is loss of revenue to the State
- ❖ The programmes formulated and implemented by the Department of Tourism are carried out under the administrative supervision and control of the Deputy Commissioner of respective districts (who is the Chairman of District Tourism Committee), such as approval of award of contracts, release of funds, monitoring the progress and periodical review. The present arrangement is working effectively and no bottlenecks/ difficulties are observed.
- ❖ The civil works carried out by respective contractors are in general, satisfactory and are in accordance with the specifications and standards. However, there was some delay in completion of the remaining works at Mokedattu, Udatadi and Shikaripura centers. However, some additional facilities of complementary nature need to be provided to make these centres more attractive and accessible
 - The tourist facilities at Mokedaatu, particularly the Water Weir at the Sangam and others proposed need to be completed early.

At the last point of Mekedaatu, shelter for tourists and some resting place is necessary to protect them from rain and sun

- Additional facilities at Hanumanthnagar as requested by the committee, such as, repairs to existing toilets, additional cottages etc., are to be considered in view of huge influx of tourists. Awareness about the location of this pilgrim centre needs to be highlighted with necessary sign boards and direction posts
- Further improvement of Malpe beach by maintaining cleanliness and ban on littering of plastic and other materials, more utilities/ services might be necessary, as expected by the tourists
- There is need to increase the number of beds and establish a restaurant at the tourist centre at Chitradurga
- Additional facilities like taralaya, pisciculture, sprinkler irrigation system and diversion drain etc., to be created at Sadankere, Dharwad
- Additional facilities such as waterway, ropeway, border planting, aquarium need to be considered at Nruputunga hills, Hubli
- Afforestation programme on the hill range surrounding the lake/ reservoir at Shantisagar, Davangere district may be taken up in association with the Karnataka State Forest Department.
- Official bus stops provided and wide publicity given for Yatri Nivas at Varoor and near Sakkarebail Jungle camp & trails.

TOURIST FACILITIES AT NRUPATUNGA BETTA - HUBLI



Paves and Kerb Stones for Pathway,



Paves and Kerb Stones for Pathway,



Canteen Building



Gazebo – 1, GF + FF.

YATRI NIVAS AT VARUR



Construction of Jain Yatri Nivas



Construction of Jain Yatri Nivas



Construction of Jain Yatri Nivas



Construction of Jain Yatri Nivas

ECO TOURISM AT HANUMANTHANAGAR NEAR MADDUR – MANDYA DISTRICT



Boat Point



Food Court



Toilet



Fountain

LINK ROAD DEVELOPMENT AT BADAMI - BAGALKOT DISTRICT



Renovation of Earthen road between Dr. Ambedkar Statue to caves also existing concreting road improvement



Concrete drain construction

YATRI NIVAS AND OTHER FACILITIES SADHANAKERI DHARWAD



Entrance Gate – (Entry Arch)



Foot path – Benches under Mango Trees



Tank Development including desilting, stone pitching and Island creation.



Foot path & railings



Musical Fountain



Gazebo – tiled
Benches under Coconut trees

DORMITORIES AND YATRI NIVAS



Shiva Statue & park in the upstream of Huchharayanakere - Shikaripura



View of Yatri nivas – at background Shikaripura



View of Yatrinivas at Sulikere Channagiri Taluk



Yatranivas at Uduthadi Shikaripura taluk



Panaromic view of Santhisagara large lake in front of Yatrinivas

BEACH RESORT AT MALPE (UDUPI)



Circle & Mahatma Gandhi Statue



View of Arabian sea – Malpe beach



Panaromic view of Malpe Beach



Panaromic view of Malpe Beach & Arabian sea