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Tourism potential in Dhule district (Maharashtra)

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Abstract

Tourism is the emerging largest economic industry in 21st century. People want to go away from the place of work. They want to visit Hill stations, Beaches, Pilgrim centers, wild life, Adventure, Natural Scenery and dams. In the district there are many places of tourist. Formerly study area comes under the tribal zone of Maharashtra state. It also comes under the rain shadow zone. Agriculture is the back bone of the study area. Study area is well connected by NH-3, NH-6 and Two Railway lines. In the present paper an attempt has been made to focus on the tourism potential of the Dhule District.

Keywords: Tourism, potential, development, tribal

Introduction

Study area

Study area is located in Northern part of Maharashtra state spread between Latitude 20° 38 to 21° 16 N. and Longitude 73° 50 to 75° 11 E. Dhule district is bounded by the district, Jalgaon is located to the East, Nashik to the South, Gujarat State and Nandurbar district is located to the North-West. Dhule district has an area of 7195 sq. kms, and contributes 2.62% area of the Maharashtra State. Dhule includes four tehsils namely (1) Dhule (2) Sakri (3) Shindkheda (4) Shirpur. (Fig. 1).

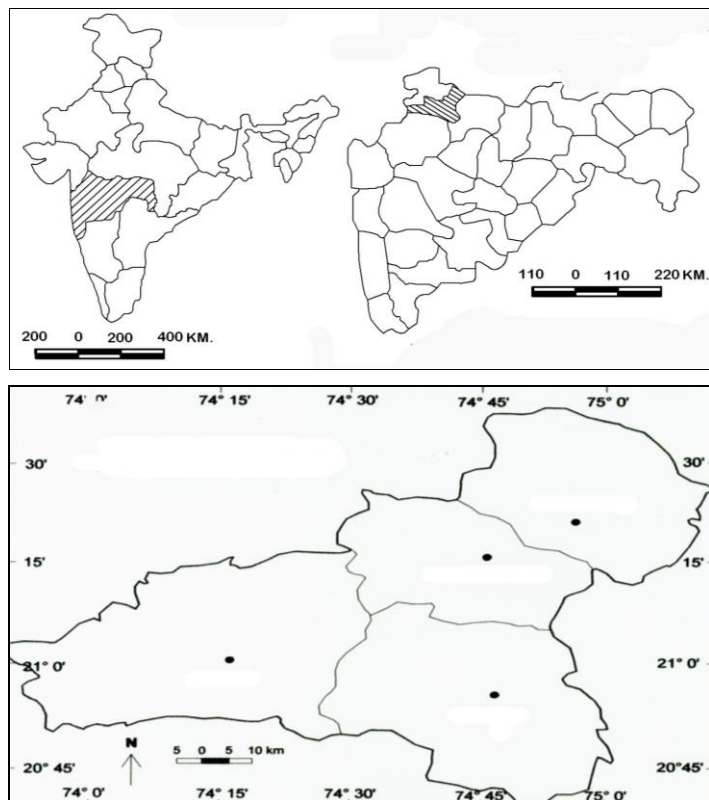


Fig 1: Dhule district: Location map

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Physiography

Most part of the Sakri and Dhule Tehsil is occupied by Dhanora and Galana hills. Hanuman is the highest peak on Galana hills, Kondaibari and Laling Bari are minor Ghats in the district. ‘Babakuvar’ is the highest peak in Shirpur Tehsil. Central and Eastern part of the district is occupied by fertile plain. Shindkheda, Shirpur and Dhule Tehsil are included in central fertile plain.

Tapi is the major river in the study area. It enters from Jalgaon District and flows from East to West. Aner and Arunavati are the major tributaries join from Western bank, whereas Panzara, Burai, Amaravati Join to the Tapi from the southern bank. Panzara is the largest tributary of the river Tapi. Therefore, most part of Dhule District is made fertile by the tributaries of Tapi River.

Soil of the district is fertile black cotton. The area along Tapi and her tributaries shows deposition of black cotton soil. Mountainous region of the hilly area are sandy soil. Soil of the study area is divided in to three major types: 1) Deep Black Cotton soil (2) Medium Black soil (3) Course Shallow soil.

Tourist Places

Tourist places include forts, Pilgrim centers, Dams and parks in the district, there are many tourists interested places in the district are as follows.

Table 1: Shows the data of tourist places visiting by peoples

Sr. No.	Tehsils	Tourist Places			
		Pilgrim	Dams	Forts	Parks
1.	Dhule	03	03	02	02
2.	Sakri	04	04	01	00
3.	Shirpur	01	02	00	01
4.	Shindkheda	01	02	01	00
District		09	11	04	03

Source: Compiled by the researcher

Pilgrim Centers

In the district there are 09 pilgrim center i.e. Dhaner Amali, Nagai, Balsane, Dhule, Shirpur Mhasadi, Boris are of public interest tourist centers. In such centers people visit in a year. These centers are useful for cultural interaction. At the time of annual festivals people from the different part of Maharashtra are gathered for their cultural activities.

Dams - In the district there are 11 medium and number of minor dams like Wadishewadi Malgaon, Nakane, Aner, Sonwad, Latipada, Gondur, Katarkhadak, Akkalpada, Dedargaon are of public interest. In these areas natural scenery, different types of Birds, flowers and Wild animals, boating attract tourist. Tourist stay there for the Healthy climate, free from the hustle and bustle. Malgaon, Nakane, Aner, Sonwad, Latipada, Gondur, Katarkhadak, Akkalpada, Dedargaon are of public interest. In these areas natural scenery, different types of Birds, flowers and Wild animals, boating attract tourist. Tourist stay there for the Healthy climate, free from the hustle and bustle.

Forts

Another interesting tourist center in the district are the forts. In the district Thalner, Laling, Bhamer and Songir are the historical forts. Laling forts has a greater important, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar visited and stay there. Large number of people visits to forts for knowing the history of the region. These forts are located in well-connected road routes.

Parks

In the district parks like Shirpur, Gondur, laling are greater important. People visit there for the freshness of mind. People stay there and enjoy the natural scenery.



Fig 2: Location of tourist center in Dhule district

Conclusion

Formerly study region comes under tribal zone of Maharashtra state. Study region also comes under the rain shadow zone. Agriculture is the prime activity of the district. No large-scale industries are there. Considering all the facts that study region has a greater scope for tourism development. It also helps to agriculture economy and unemployment problem of the study area. With the planned government scheme some Tourist centers are developed i.e. Gondur Dam. In the district large tourist center are not available but small places attract tourist. In the district there is a large scope for the development of tourist centers but there is a need of planned programme for the development of such tourist centers.

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