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“A STUDY OF TOURIST CENTER IN NANDED DISTRICT”**Dr.Sunita. S.Shinde**

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Email – drsunitashinde9@gmail.com.**ABSTRACT:**

Tourism today is a leisure activity of the masses. People today travel to international, National and local destinations to break the regular monotony of life. Nanded is one of the historical places in Maharashtra State. It is situated on north bank of Godavari River. It is known as an important tourism place for the Gurudwara Hazur Sahib Sachkand the structure is built at the place of death of Guru Gobind Singh and Other Gurudwaras. Nanded Fort situated 4 km away from the Nanded Railway station. Mahurgad is a religious place in Maharashtra. Mahur is said to be the birth place of Hindu Goddess Renuka mother of Lord Parshuram. Kandhar fort is situated in the heart of Kandhar Town. Encircling the fort is a ditch filled with water. Malegaon village is famous for a very big fair held in honour of Lord Khandoba. The Masjid Biloli known as the Hazrat Nawab Sarfaraz Khan Sahid Masjid is said to have been constructed about 330 years back. Sahastrakund Waterfall on the Pennganga River is an unbelievable site. It flows round the year, as river Pennganga makes from four to five places only to meet the Holy Godavari River. Hottal Temple is situated in Degloor Taluka. There is a very beautiful Temple Lord Siddheshwar. Unkeshwar is situated on the bank of river Penganga 150 Km away from Nanded. The village is famous for its hot water springs. Nanded district other tourism place Trikut Village, Maltekdi Ghat, Kaleshwar Temple, Kinwat National Park, Jurassic Park/ Visava Garden etc. Nanded district has a geographical area of 10,5,28 Sq. Km. which forms 3.41% of the total geographical area of Maharashtra State. The district is situated in the Deccan Plateau. Therefore an attempt is made in this research paper to analyze the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of Nanded district tourism.

KEY WORD: tourism research, economic development.

INTRODUCTION:

Geography is the one of the older & most diverse field of study, so it offers an introduction to a unique of eventual careers. Bergman & Renwick explain that “Geography is the study of the interaction of all physical & human phenomenon at individual places and how interaction among places from patterns and organize space” in the book namely “introduction to Geography – people, place & Environment”. Geography an important subject tries to study about the physical as well as manmade aspects of the earth & also studies the spatial variation on the earth surface. It is the major discipline that is concerned with the identification, analysis and interpretation of spatial distribution of phenomena & their area association as they occur on the surface of the earth. (Haring & Lounsbury, (1975). Negi (1979) has expressed, as “Human Geography is one of the major branch of geography that deals with people, their activities and their spatial distribution”.

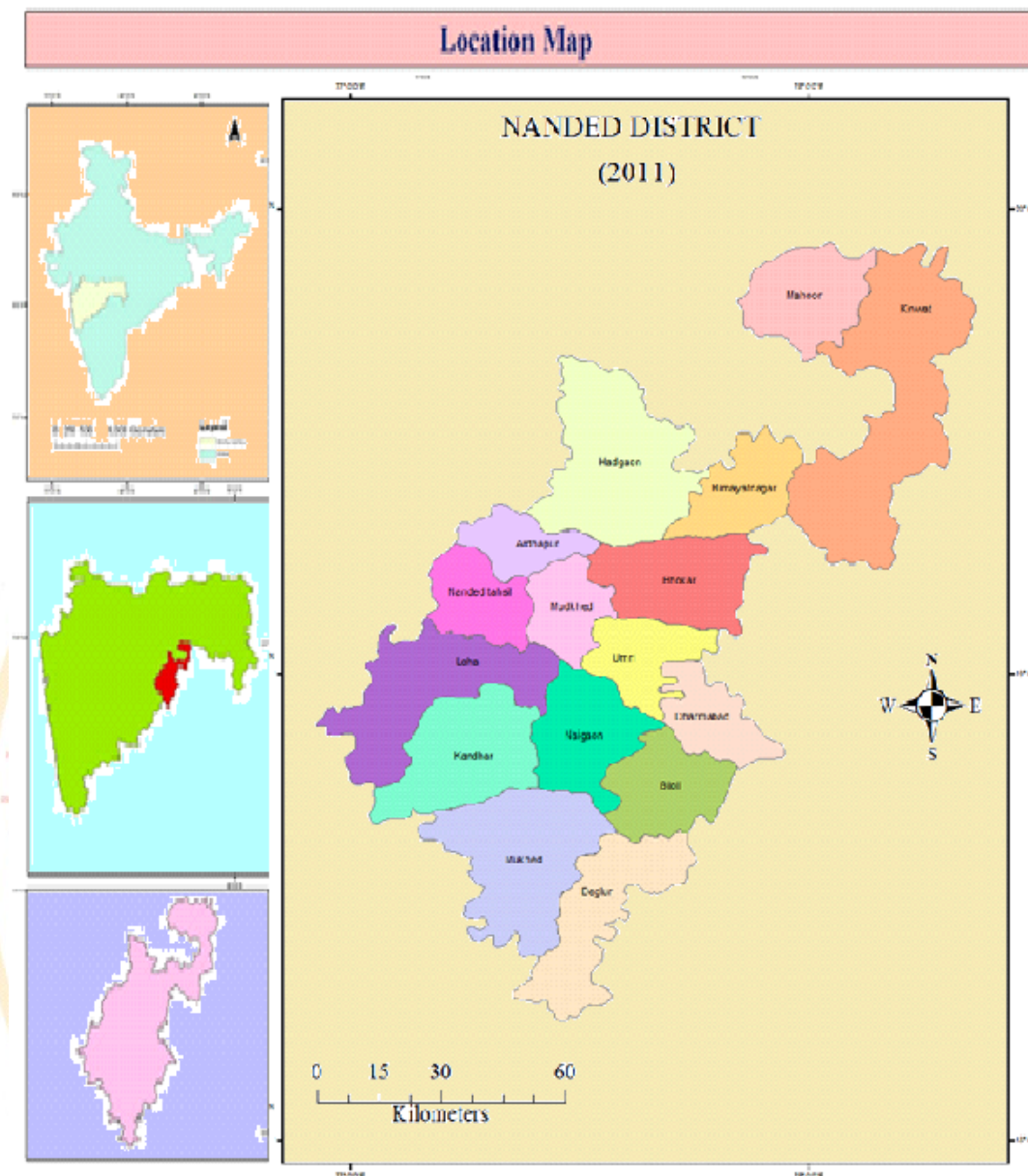
Tourism Geography is a branch of Human Geography that studies the tourists, tourist places; its situation, and potential tourist centres, infrastructure facilities & other aspects of tourism. hence geography and Geographer have contributed much more in tourism research and gives idea about tourist generation & tourist receiving areas by linking them. Geography of Tourism has three basic components. (Lepier N., 1976)

OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand geographical study of the Nanded district.
2. To find out tourism Center in Nanded district.

STUDY AREA:

Nanded district is part of Marathwada Region in Maharashtra. For the present study in and around area of Nanded district is selected. Nanded district is situated on the bank of Godavari River. Nanded district has a geographical area of 10,5,28 Sq. Km. which forms 3.41% of the total geographical area of Maharashtra State. The district is situated in the Deccan Plateau. The Nanded district is lies between 18°15' and 19°55' North latitude and 77°7' to 78°15' East longitudes. Nanded is one of the fastest growing city of Marathwada regions of Maharashtra.



DATA BASE AND METHODOLOGY:

The data collection is based on primary & secondary sources of the data. The primary data is collected through survey method where as secondary data is collected from the literatures of the other researchers, Govt. publications & reports of the several departments. For example reports of the various departments, census handbook, Gazetteer of Nanded district statistical dept. the information regarding physiographic, relief, drainage, forest covers, and vegetation has obtained from top maps, cadastral maps, and revenue maps

The information and data regarding physiography, geology, rivers, and land use & tourist locations were obtained from survey of India topographical maps, tahsil revenue maps & from district planning map of Nanded district. The data regarding the tourists has collected from government offices and M.T.D.C. offices. The data is collected from local

municipal councils of Nanded district & official records of local authorities related to tourist based industries. Tourist place is Kandhar, Unkeshwar, Nanded, Mahur taluka in the study research work.

NANDED FORT:

Nanded Fort situated 4 km away from the Nanded Railway station; the Nanded Fort has a beautiful location. Sensuous Godavari River encloses the fort on three sides. There is a good garden and water works enhancing its natural beauty.



SHRI SACHKHAND GURUDWARA:

Takhat Sachkhand Shri Hazur Abchalnagar Sahib is the main Gurudwara of Nanded and is one of the five High seats of Authority of the sikhs. This is the place where Shri GuruGobind Singhji breathed his last. The Gurudwara is situated in Nanded Town. The Gurudwara was built by Maharaja Ranjit Singhji, The great Ruler of Punjab between 1830 to 1839 A.D. Inside the Gurudwara, which contains the mortal remains of the 10th Guru, there are exhibited a number of weapons of various kinds.



RENUKADEVI. TEMPLE:

A pilgrim Centre of great significance. It is considered to be one of the Shaktipith of Maharashtra. The temple of Goddess Renuka Devi is situated on a hillock abounding in natural beauty at a distance of about 2.415 km. from the village of Mahur. The temple is said to have been constructed by a Yadava king of Devgiri about eight or nine hundred years ago. On the day of Dasara every year a very big fair is held in honour of Renukadevi.

**KANDHAR DARGAH:**

The Sayyad Saidodin alias Haji Saiyya Saravar Magadum Dargah known as the Haiji Saiyya Magadum Dargah constructed about 750 years ago (in 736 Hijri) is situated to the south east of the town. An urus is held at the Dargah for three days from 16 Rajjab.

**MALEGAON YATRA:**

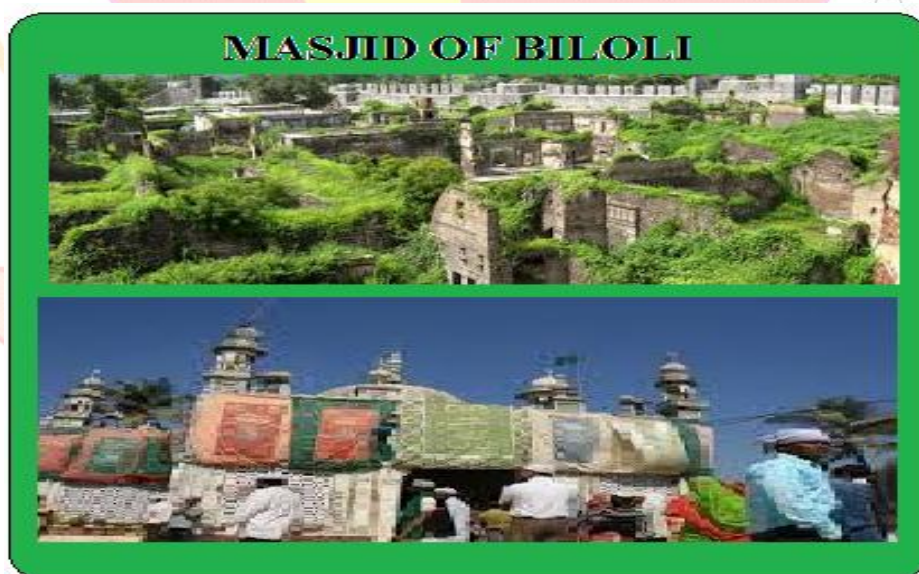
Malegaon is situated in Loha Taluka. The village is famous for a very big fair held in honour of Lord Khandoba. This big fair namely “Malegaon Yatra” is held in Margashirshvadya 14 (Dec/Jan). Malegaon is situated at a distance of about 57 km from

Nanded. The fair is famous for its animal market. At the time of the Fair horses, asses, camels etc. are brought in large numbers. Thousands of people visit the Fair.



MASJID OF BILOLI:

The Masjid known as the Hazrat Nawab Sarfaraz Khan Sahid Masjid is said to have been constructed about 330 years back. Sarfaraz Khan was an officer in the army of Aurangzeb. The Masjid is constructed in stone. There are four minarets on the southern side which collapsed when it was hit by a lightening in 1960. The one on the north has eight chains. Below the chains is a figure in the shape of a bell. To the north-west corner of the masjid is a barrow (a well square in shape). The Masjid is situated in Biloli Town.

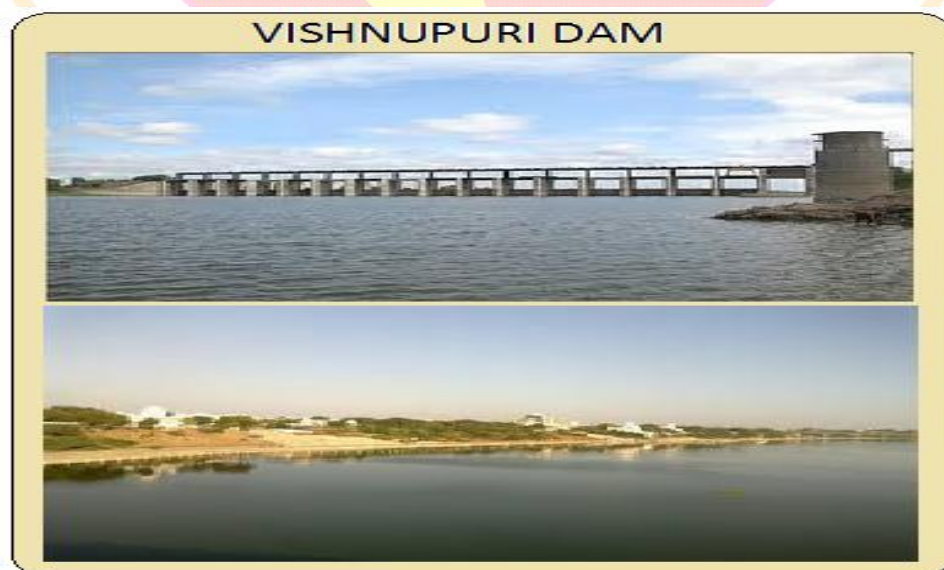


VISHNUPURI DAM:

Constructed on the river Godavari, this is one of the largest lift irrigation projects in Asia. The project is situated near Asarjan village, at about 8 k.m. From Nanded city. The project was completed in the year 1988. The back water covers 40 k.m. length of the river Godavari. Culturable Command Area of project is 23222 Hec. and Irrigable Command Area is 19514 Hec. Up till now irrigation Potential of 15856 Hec. Is created.

The command area of this project is distributed in Nanded, Kandhar & Loha taluka of Nanded district. Live storage of project is 80.79 Million cubic meters Out of which 43.95 Million cubic meters storage is reserved for drinking purpose for Nanded city and 10.26 Million cubic meters storage is reserved for Industrial purpose. The barrage has 18 vertical gates.

The idea of this project was put forward and pursued by former Chief Minister of Maharashtra late Shri. Shankarrao Chavan. Hence in his remembrance the Govt. of Maharashtra has named the water reservoir as the Shankar Sagar Jalashaya. With the huge water reservoir, presence of Kaleshwar temple, Landscaping, the Ghat and the Ratneshwari hills in the surrounding the place has been attracting pilgrims and tourists. Every year on the day of Mahashivratri lacks of pilgrims assemble for the Yatra. This is one of largest lift irrigation project in Asia sub-continent located on Godavari River. This project is named as Dr. Shankarrao Chavan Vishnupuri Project.

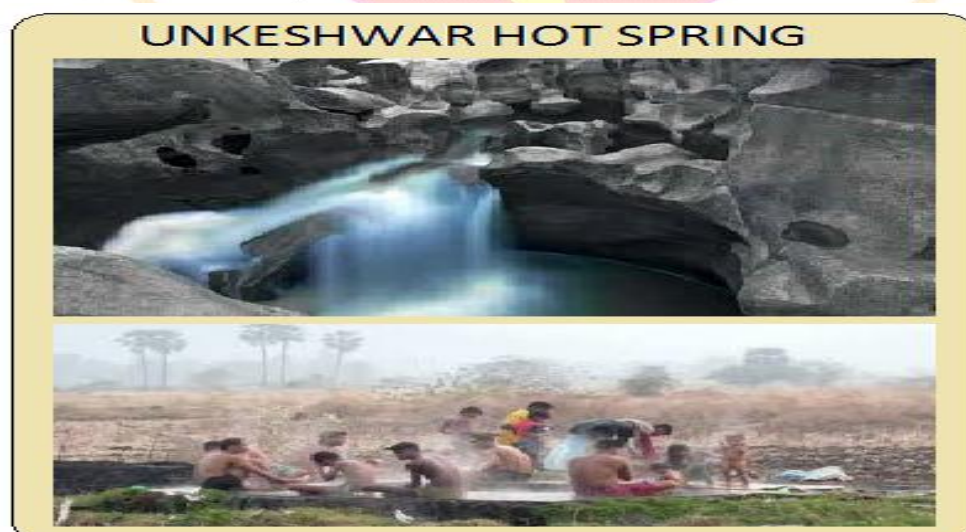


SAHAstra KUND:

This waterfall on the Penganga River is an unbelievable site. It flows round the year, as river Penganga makes from four to five places only to meet the Holy Godavari River. The Rock Pattern is equally interesting, as the black rock appears like a metal and as if wet. In reality the wetness is due to the shine it adores. The southwest part is picturesque site.

**UNKESHWAR:**

Unkeshwar is famous for the temple dedicated to God Siva and the hot springs located close by the temple. These springs are said to possess medicinal value and cure skin diseases. The temperature of water in one tank stands at 42.20 C and is found to contain sulphur in water springs. The excess water flows out from the Gomukh. Many bubbles are seen in the tank which indicates sulphur contents as per the experts.



CONCLUSION:

Godavari River encloses the fort on three sides. There is a good garden and water works enhancing its natural beauty. The Gurudwara, a was built by Maharaja Ranjit Singhji, The great Ruler of Punjab between 1830 to 1839 A.D. Inside the Gurudwara, a, which contains the mortal remains of the 10th Guru, there are exhibited a number of weapons of various kinds. It is considered to be one of the Shaktipith of Maharashtra. Malegaon is situated in Loha Taluka. The village is famous for a very big fair held in honour of Lord Khandoba. The Masjid known as the Hazrat Nawab Sarfaraz Khan Sahid Masjid is said to have been constructed about 330 years back. The Shankar Sagar Jalashaya. With the huge water reservoir, presence of Kaleshwar temple, Kandhar Town is famous for its fort. Kandhar. Unkeshwar is famous for the temple dedicated to God Siva and the hot springs located close by the temple in Nanded district tourist center points.

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