ABSTRACT & KEY WORDS

Growth of rural tourism has encouraged many developing economies and development agencies to adopt tourism as a means to the progress of rural regions. Government of India has also adopted this strategy for the development of rural regions. Therefore the Government together with UNDP funded tourism projects in thirty six villages in India in 2003.

Tourism as a vehicle of development is not without vices. Studies have also pointed out that in many rural regions in spite of the growth of tourism; people of the region became poorer. Therefore cautious implementation of tourism project in rural regions is a necessity. It is in this context the study titled ‘Development Management through Rural Tourism – A Study with Special Reference to Kumbalangi Gramma Panchayath’ was undertaken. Kumbalangi was one among the thirty six destinations selected by Government of India and first the destination to complete the implementation. Hence the study was conducted with the objective to evaluate the role of tourism in the development management of Kumbalangi Gramma Panchayath.

Key words: Tourism, Endogenous Tourism, Quality of Life, Impact of Tourism, Participation, CV Model, Leader Participation Model, Development Management, Crime, Ecology and Environment, Culture, Tradition.