CHAPTER – VII

CONCLUSION

Tourism provides income and diversification to local communities. Most of the income generated from outside visitors stay within the local economy. Tourism stimulates cultural activities and leads to improved understanding of each other and better relations between the tourists and the hosts. In addition to gains from direct sales to visitors, many indirect benefits are realized from tourism. Visitors contribute to the tax revenues collected and can influence the quality of life by financing community facilities such as infrastructure development, accommodation, restaurants, swimming pools, golf courses, and shopping facilities. Community events intended for tourists, also attract local residents. Many potential industries prefer locations that provide high quality services and recreational resources. If the community is a pleasant place, the visitors may become a permanent resident.

Karnataka is little India—this state has everything that India has to offer like, world heritage sites, breath taking hill stations, spectacular water falls, exotic wildlife, gripping adventure options, sensational beaches, renowned pilgrim centre, colourful festivals, throbbing night life. As per the survey conducted by the Ministry of tourism, Government of India, Bangalore-Mysore stretch of Karnataka is one of the most visited destinations in India by foreign tourists. It is interesting to note a discernable shift in domestic tourist’s preferences. Traditionally preferred places like Mysore,
Sharavanabelagola, Belur and Halebidu showed a decline in tourist visits. On the other hand, places like Hampi, Hospet, Aihole, Pattadkallu, Chitradurga and Badami have come into prominence. In the recent period the number of tourists’ visits to these places has exceeded one lakh and this indicates that tourists prefer Karnataka as an important heritage destination. Present study area comes in way between Bangalore-Mysore stretch and Hampi, Hospet, Aihole, Pattadkallu, Chitradurga and Badami, where lies the treasure of cultural heritage, unique style of temple architecture, etc. Unfortunately this region has remained as enter and exit point.

7.1 Observations

The following observations were made in this context;

- Tourists or visitors came from within and outside the State with occasional few coming from outside the country. An important observation is that most of the tourists were excursionists as they make only daily visits to these sites and leave the city soon after their visits. When asked about this behaviour, majority of the tourists expressed about the lack of adequate facilities, such as hotels, restaurants, telecommunication facilities, shops, and tourist centres. This has enormous impact on local transport system. And this also impact negatively on the local economy of Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri districts, especially on rural income of the study area.

- It is also noticeable that the number of domestic tourists is more and very few international tourists are visiting these sites. The more distressing fact is that the lack of data about the tourists,
their origin, and purpose of visits are not recorded. Although the pilgrimage centres are said to host thousands of pilgrims, there is no official record to validate the figure. Thus, the huge development opportunities presented by these sites have not been exploited by potential stakeholders, particularly the government and private sector stakeholders. In particular, none of these sites have been promoted in any of the news media and those visiting the sites are either locals or those that know about the sites from previous visitors. The effective advertising in conjunction with the provision of basic infrastructure and supporting facilities within and around the sites would attract more tourists and lead to the diversification of the local economy to generate employment and income opportunities.

• It was observed that the tourists pay no entry fees, which means that no attempts are made to know how many people are on site at any particular time. According to the tourists there had never been charges to these sites, and in some places very meager amount is charged. Obviously it will affect the development of tourist spots. Payment of entry fees not only generate income that can be ploughed back to infrastructure and service provisions. Payments for services also ensure availability of funds for the maintenance of existing infrastructures and perhaps facilitate new facilities and services. The government has to interest in the development of such regions.

• Presence of tour guides were not noticed at all the sites, but the few that were available had little knowledge about the sites. They
trained themselves on the job and more seriously, there were no guide notes available to the guides for visitors.

- During the survey of tourist destinations I met with very few foreign tourists who are very much interested in Indian culture, rural life style and architecture. One interesting thing I observed among the foreign tourist was they are not interested in five star accommodation but they need clean and green rural life.

- No inventories regarding the information of remote and unique tourist destinations.

- Fair and Festivals are the round-the-year activities includes in the mundane routine of life. In the every season there is a new festival, each bringing a true celebration for the people.

- There are no signage boards in the tourist spots.

7.2 Recommendations Based on Observations

Tourism development is the major requirement in Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri districts. The districts must be developed sustainably in order to enhance the environmental, economic, and socio-cultural sustainability of the tourist areas. Sustainability is not only about being self-sustaining but also about being sensitive to local community needs and concerns, recognizing the importance of all the people in the decision making process. Thus, the following recommendations are guided by the researcher:

**Development of Infrastructure:** (a) Attraction (b) Accessibility (c) Amenities (d) Ancillary services are the basic requirements of tourism. The religious places like Chaudadanpura, Galaganath, Lakkundi,
Sudi, Rattihalli, Hangal, Annigeri etc, are the most beautiful pilgrimage centres of Haveri and Gadag districts. And also these places are having the unique style of temple architecture. Development of infrastructure and basic amenities can attract both domestic and international tourists. Since most infrastructure elements and the delivery systems are within the purview of the state Governments or private sector, tourism infrastructure is being developed mainly with financial assistance to state and by providing various incentives to private entrepreneurs. The following facilities can be provided:

- Tented accommodation
- Tourist complexes/tourist lodges
- Wayside amenities
- Pilgrim sheds/dormitories, etc. at pilgrimage centers
- Public conveniences
- Mini-buses, jeeps, etc. for wild life viewing

**Ticketing:** About the second observation following recommendations are made; The Black Buck sanctuary of Ranibennur, Peacock sanctuary of Bankapur, in Haveri district. Binkadkatte zoo of Gadag and Bird sanctuary of Magdi in Shirhatti of Gadag district and Dharwad zoo are gifted with the natural beauty and the tourist are very much interested in enjoying the scenic beauty so ticketing is to be introduced in these places. This will help the development of sanctuaries so that maximum number of tourists can be attracted to these places.
**Training to the local youths:** Effective training and education should be provided in order to create professionalisms in the industry towards efficiency in service delivery. Awareness and knowledge about the tourist attraction will help the upliftment of tourist destinations. So the local youth are to be trained in the places like Sudi, Gajendragad, Gadag, Bankapur, Lakkundi, Unkal, Amminbhavi, etc. It will help the tourists to know about the historical importance of these places. There should be an effective campaign in the media about tourism and tourism sites in the country as well as in the state to encourage internal demand for tourism.

**Inventory and route map:** Make an inventory and also route map on Lesser Known Attractions in and around the main tourist destinations. Publication of Tourist Handbooks for benefit of International as well as Domestic Tourists (by Sponsorship)

**Gathering Statistics on Tourism:** In most tourist destinations of Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri, there are no available statistics on visitors and tourist infrastructure. Such statistics is vital for planning and optimal resource allocation within the tourism sector.

**Implementing Better Land Use Planning:** This will help minimize the ecological footprints of tourism. Stakeholders should endeavor to assess the physical impact of tourism to enhance the preservation of the implementation.

**Information on Religious / Cultural Events in the district.** Fair and Festivals are the round-the-year activities includes in the mundane routine of life. In the every season there is a new festival, each bringing a true celebration for the people. Encourage the local
youth to arrange rural sports in the fairs and to give publicity of these rural sports which can attract many numbers of tourists in the places like Yamanur, Itagi, etc. Launch of a Tourist Friendly programme in major tourist areas.

**Other recommendations:**

- Placing of Tourist Signage's and Direction Boards leading to Tourist Attractions with assistance of sponsors.
- Launch of Clean & Green Campaign at Major Tourist Sites/Cities.
- Conducting of surveys on impact of Domestic Tourism through Schools, Travel Clubs and Undergraduates Studying tourism.
- Conducting of Awareness Raising Programmes on Code of Ethics for travelers.
- Encourage Travel Agents to introduce Budget Tour Packages for the Tourists.
- Media Campaign
- Advisory Committee for the development of Tourism
- Code of Ethics for Domestic Tourists
- Setting up of School Travel Clubs.

### 7.3 Conclusion

The analysis shows that Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri have huge tourism potentials; the districts need to be supported and developed for the benefits to accrue. However, in developing the districts, stringent efforts should be made to minimize the ecological footprints
of tourism through the design and specification of materials and services. Furthermore, it is certainly the case that for mono-cultural economies such as Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri districts, the need for economic diversification is overwhelming and this is predicated upon the need to create employment and income on the one hand, and on the other, to conserve cultural heritage of the region. This would require effective planning and participation by all stakeholders.

As far as the integrated tourist infrastructure and facilities are concerned, Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri districts are having fairly good infrastructure in terms of internal transport, power, communication network, banking, good education and medical facilities, accommodation, tourist information, basic amenities, entertainment and recreational avenues etc. A study report reveals measures of satisfaction, and also highlights some of the specific aspects of dissatisfaction. For instance, foreign tourists were unhappy with the railway connection, banking facilities emergency health care, domestic care and connectivity within Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri districts. Some of the other problems faced by foreign tourist relate to cuisine, local transport, ATM facilities and money changers at tourist destinations, harassment and cheating by the local miscreants’ pollution and cleanliness etc. the difficulties faced by domestic tourist are not different either. The study has strongly suggested a large number of improvements in infrastructure to make tourism a pleasure with safety.