CHAPTER - 4
Aims and Objectives

In order to analyze the impacts of Tourism on the Environment as a necessary prerequisite for tourism planning and policy decisions, and consequently to enhance the understanding of the role of assessment of environmental impacts of tourism in Madhya Pradesh specific to destination sites near and around Bhopal, the study was undertaken with following objectives –

- Identification and analysis of various impacts of Tourism on environment in the targeted area.
- Assessment of the contribution of tourism in the observed or expected environmental modification in the destination area.
- Estimation of the demand for resources and the amounts of residuals disposed to the regional environment.
- Analysis of the environmental impacts of tourism on the local communities.

Research Output
The expected research output will include:

- Better understanding of environmental impacts of Tourism in general and in the study area in particular.
- Scientifically validated report on the impacts of tourism in the study area
  - Direct Environmental Impact.
  - Indirect Environmental Impacts through the changes in physical, demographic and other characteristics.
• Identification of tourism activities which are compatible / incompatible with the area and suggesting mitigation measures.
• Guidelines and strategies for formulating effective policies, plan and programmes about sustainable tourism.

The study attempts to address following major issues in detail:

1. Likes and dislikes of the residents about tourism around the sites / destination area.
2. Levels of agreement with statements about tourism development, impacts on the different domains viz., physical environment, socio-cultural, economic etc., which is based on a 5-point Likert type scale with a non-response option as recommended by Ryan and Garland (1999). The subject matter of these statements has been derived from the literature and past research.
3. Considerations of residents about the positive and negative aspects that can result from tourism in their area due to the development of tourism in the area.
4. Demographic data (gender, age, dependent children, marital status, employment, cultural group, household income).
5. Visitors willingness to pay for the local and natural environment, their experience from the trip, their expenditures, their suggestions and perceptions which will give the overview of the present environmental condition of the site and also helpful for the concerned authorities and forthcoming research.
6. Demand and Production characteristics of each destination area?
7. Listing the environmental impacts and advocating the mitigating measures for the future planning.
Significance of the Study

Further Scope of Work
The need for spatially differentiated approaches to the research produces many possibilities for productive and specifically geographical contributions without losing contact with the neighboring disciplines. With constant attention to the development, practically- oriented regional studies would, for example, analyze from the supply and demand aspects the form taken by tourism, its implications and consequences from the point of view of their natural and socio-economic relativity, their regional and supra- regional integration and their present and future significance for the population; they would also classify and record the tourist potential and the possibilities of exploiting it and ascertain the optimum capacities specific to the region, allowing for the various spatial requirements of different forms of tourism. In the course of these studies consideration should also be given to an increase in inland tourism. These regional analyses would then have to be incorporated into broader contexts and structures.

Recent research broadly agrees that the promotion of tourism must not remain an isolated operation; tourism produces beneficial effects upon the regional structure in the sense of development, only if its promotion operates as an integral part of an overall spatial and economic plan which, if necessary, includes changes in the social structures which restricts development and in the asymmetric relations between nations.

There exists a great scope for forestry and wildlife research in the area. Research work should be encouraged and provided all facilities including those of fieldwork, lodging and laboratory as far as possible. This will promote of tourism as more schools and college excursion tours in the area will be promoted.
This present research will increase our understanding of the character and the nature of tourism that had been developing especially at Bhopal and as no such studies have been carried out at Bhopal. This study will of significant output for the planners and environmentalists. As Bhopal and its surrounding areas are in the growing stage of tourism development, it may be difficult to estimate the environmental impacts due to tourism activities in the State. However, an attempt has been made in the present study to identify the possible negative impacts of tourism on the environmental parameters in consultation with the ecologists, environmentalists, foresters and experts in this field and NGOs working on the environmental issues, so that the appropriate methods of sustainable management of nature-based tourism can be adopted and lessons learnt here may be transferred to other region, where nature (i.e. forests and wildlife) can be used for tourism development.

This study is an attempt to fill this gap in Knowledge. Hence, it is expected that the present work in this region will form the basis of future research work in this region and Bhopal and surrounding destination spots in particular.