During the last decade there had been tremendous expansion in tourism industry. Tourism promoted industrialisation in a country and simultaneously it is an export industry which brings foreign exchange earnings to the national exchequer through invisibles. It is an industry where goods are not transferred, no turn-key projects are completed yet through sale of expert professionalised services - the invisible exportables - the foreign exchange earnings gradually increase. There is no substitute for tourism. This is a specific export industry which remains unaffected by any amount of import substitution. This is one single industry where millions of indigenous trades find shelter to develop and billions of employees earn their livelihood directly and indirectly. Broadly speaking, it is a sophisticated highly well-organised industry, which, in the days of present cut-throat competition requires a superb infrastructure and a systematic tourism planning and development policy both at national and international levels. It requires a careful handling and a well-defined long-term follow-up policy at different stages.

During my Master's degree examination I availed an opportunity to submit a thesis on "An Economic Analysis of Tourism Industry in India". I was extremely ambitious to do
extensive research work on this area and I am rather very grateful to the University authorities for very kindly permitting me to take up the present study for my Doctoral dissertation.

Objectives and Research Methodology

The main purpose of this study had been to -

(i) focus the relevant problems of Tourism industry both on national and international levels and having a direct bearing with developing economies,

(ii) the present state of affairs, the nature of tourism industry in the country at large,

(iii) the main problems of tourism industry in India,

(iv) an assessment of efforts made by different agencies in promoting and strengthening tourism industry in India,

(v) a review and critical examination of organisational, functional and field set-up of tourism industry,

(vi) an evaluation of State efforts in Indian Five Year Plans so far as tourism development is concerned, and

(vii) tendering suggestive measures for building a sound infrastructure of Tourism industry in India.

Research Methodology

Keeping into consideration seriously the above objectives the study has been conducted on the bases of primary and
secondary data collected through several sources. Private data have been collected through a detailed questionnaire and a schedule through on-the-spot surveys and through postal enquiries. The places of survey include mainly tourist centres in various States, particularly Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa, Meghalaya, Manipur, Nagaland, Assam, Maharashtra and Goa. An intensive study has been conducted for the North-East Sector and I have visited places for completing the survey, especially the Government of India, Tourist Office, Guwahati, Director of Tourism, Meghalaya, Shillong, Govt. of India Tourist Office, Arunachal Pradesh, Directorate of Tourism Kohima, Nagaland, Director info. Govt. of Tripura, Indian Airlines, Dibrugarh, Deputy Director Kaziranga, to name a few. A detailed questionnaire on all aspects of Indian tourism industry was served to the State Departments of Tourism and a few selected hotel-owners, both private and public sector ones. Adequate primary discussions for procuring sufficient background material were completed through private agencies, State and Central Government departments, and all those sources having a bearing with the topic of my research. On account of time and money constraints only 2 to 5% units were reviewed. Every effort has been made to keep the data unbiased during processing and tabulation and deriving conclusions from the study.
Literature Reviewed

In addition to the books and publications listed in the Bibliography, attempts have been made to examine the following sources of information:

2. The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi, Various Publications.
3. The Journal of Foreign Trade of India (IIFT).
4. Indian Hoteliers & Caterer, New Delhi.
5. Travel News, Bombay.
6. Travel Trade in India (New Delhi).
9. Travel Trade Gazette (Hong Kong), Asia.
10. World Travel, Japan.
12. Publications of the State Tourism Departments (concerning all leading tourist centres).
14. Yearly Reports from ITDC.
15. Various Research publications published as independent works.

The entire work is divided into 9 Chapters. The topic of the study is introduced in the first chapter. "Tourism Industry in Developed Countries" has been discussed in the Second Chapter, whereas, the subject matter for the third chapter relates with a discussion on "Tourism Industry in Developing Countries". The Fourth Chapter deals with "the Tourism Industry: A Historical Retrospect" and the subsequent chapter is based on "The Indian Tourism Industry: Organisational, Functional and Field Set-up". An analysis of "Indian Tourism under Five Year Plans" has been made in the sixth chapter. "Domestic Tourism in India" and "Indian Tourism: Long-Term Perspectives" are, however, detailed in the seventh and eighth chapters respectively. "Observations and Conclusions" are given in the last chapter. The "guidelines for tourism industry in developing economies" are given in Appendix I.

I have tried my best to do justice with the subject, however, I realise that since the topic of my work is so detailed that without any financial support or subordinate ministerial help, it is not possible to make the study still more intensive.

It has been my earnest ambition to contribute significantly on this new ever-developing area of research. I shall feel my
efforts amply rewarded if this noble venture helps the academicians and the researchers as well as those engaged in the practical administration of tourism and framing of State Tourism Policy to some extent. I feel great pleasure in submitting this work as my doctoral dissertation and mainly my own "point of view" on Tourism Industry.

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