Chapter IV

Development of Tourism
Chapter - IV

DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM

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Chapter-IV

Development of Tourism

4.0 Introduction:

In this chapter an attempt has been made to highlight the development of tourism in India, Maharashtra and in the study region. In tourism geography there are various sub branches; pilgrimage is one of them. It is a particular form of domestic as well as international tourism. In India, the base of both types of tourism is pilgrimage because of its historical and cultural aspects. It is essential to go through the history and development of tourism in India with special reference to Maharashtra and Akkalkot.

India is a land of geographic, agro-climatic, demographic and socio-cultural diversity. As a consequence, country possess ample potential for its economic development through focused approaches that harness regional / local / development niches.

4.1 Historical Perspective of Tourism development In India:

India is a wonder land for the rest of the world since ancient period. Many tourists from various parts of the world visited India from time to time, to see this wonderland. St. Thomas an Apostle of Jesus Christ came to the South Indian shore in the 1st century A.D. Hieun T. Saug the devout Chinese Buddhist made the perilous journey to India around AD 633. Before these two important pilgrims it was also recorded that during the era of Gupta’s rule the Caravans visited India for commerce and trade.
There is also a mention of cultural exchanges between Persia and India which had influence of Persian customs in the court of Chandra Gupta Maurya. Emperor Ashok, the Great traveled a great deal in his eagerness to spread the doctrines of Buddha. Ashoka and his entourage first traveled to Nepal starting from Patiliputra and then ventured to Lumhari gardens, the land of Buddhā's birth and to Kapilvastu, the place where Buddha spent his childhood and other places i.e. Saranath, Gaya. Through his travels, Emperor Ashoka had special memorials setup in each spot and also rest homes where travelers could pause and refresh. Harsha was another Emperor who was greatly influenced by the Buddhist Scriptures. He built numerous monasteries, temples, Dharamsalas and rest houses for the pilgrims. At that time religion played a crucial part in travel. Some other travelers, whose names need special mention are Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, Marco-polo, Benjamin of Tudela, Ibn Batutah, Francisco Fraia and Mark Twain visited India. Later on in sixteenth and seventeenth centuries many more European Monks, travelers and adventurers visited India in search of knowledge, various invaders contributed directly to the development of domestic tourism in India. According to Mark Twain, "Splendor and rags, the one country under the Sun with an imperishable interest, the one land that all men desire to see." During British period India tourism was more organized. British established Dak-bungalows on the road side. The development in transport system is one of the major contributions for the development of tourism in our country. Number of hill resorts were discovered by them and Maharaja's of different states. Shimla, Darjeeling, Ottacamand are only a few summer resorts discovered and popularized by the rulers and aristocrats.
Despite our early history in tourism where in most of the cases travel was effected for knowledge and education, pilgrimage trade and commerce, tourism declined during medieval era for want of proper educational system in our country and account of rulers apathy, we preserved our cultural heritage, therefore even before world war II, government of India made some efforts to ensure proper tourism development.

4.2 Tourism Development Before Independence:

In India, the importance of tourism had been recognized even before the second world war. The intervention of war, however, put a stop to the tourist promotion activities of the government. The first conscious and organized efforts to promote tourism in India was made in the year 1945, when a committee was set up by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Sir John Sergeant, the then Educational Adviser to the Government of India. The main objective of the committee was to survey the potentialities of developing tourism traffic in the country. The committee had submitted their interim report in October 1946. The major recommendation of the committee was that a special tourist organization should be set up at the center along with its regional offices. The organization should take initiative in the following matters as

1) Publicity both in India and abroad
2) Production of suitable literature such as guide, books, folders, posters etc.
3) Provision for training guides.
4) Co-ordination among various departments.
5) Collection of tourist statistics and co ordination with the first class hotels of international standards and starting of publicity series in London and New York and the capital of other countries from where substantial numbers of tourists might be forth coming.

4.3 Tourism Development After Independence:

Tourism in India was developed properly only after establishment of central tourist organization which was set up as a result of the recommendation of the Sergeant committee. It was only after the creation of a separate Tourist Traffic Branch in the year 1949 that made whole time attention was paid to the development of tourist traffic in India. During this period number of tourist offices were opened in India. Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai are the centers where tourist offices were opened and by the year 1955 many information offices were established all over the country. The important work of the these offices was to provide update information regarding places of tourist interest and to help the tourists in various wrap.

It was on 1st March 1958, a separate tourism department was created in the Ministry of Transport to deal with all matters concerning tourism. The new department was put under the charge of the Director General who had under him one Deputy Director and four Directors each in charge of Administration, Publicity, Travel Relations planning and Development. By the presidential order dated 14 March 1967 the Department of Aviation and Tourism which was under the ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation was formed into a separate Ministry designed as the Ministry of tourism and Civil Aviation with various objectives.
such as promotional and organizational amenities, planning programming publicity and conference, travel, trade, hospitality, accommodation, supplementary accommodation, market research and administration.

Indian Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) was setup in public sector on 1st October 1966 to control the activities of tourism. It has three divisions related to tourism development. Hotel corporation of India Ltd, India Tourism corporation Ltd, and Indian Tourism Transport undertaking Ltd. ITDC started functioning since 28th March 1970. To promote and to develop the various tourist facilities and projecting the national importance of tourism at home.

Regional offices are established in all capital cities of states and the branches are at or near places of tourist interest. Tourist spots in the country have improved and more facilities are provided to attract foreign tourists. Government is giving priority to develop international tourism, for that purpose National Tourism Board was set up in 1972 to deal with the policy regarding the tourism. Regional offices have been improved with their facilities. Special travel concession for students and pilgrims and tickets valid for 21 days are issued to foreign tourists.
The growth of tourist arrivals in India since 1951 is shown in fig. 4.1. and Table No. 4.1. It was because of various efforts made by ITDC. In the year 2004 about 33,67,000 tourists visited India. At the same time the foreign exchange earnings through tourism increased during the span of two and half decades. In the year 1973-74 the foreign exchange earning was Rs. 565 million which increased up to Rs. 2,20,000 million in the year 2003-2004 (Table No. 4.2)

Table 4.1
Growth Of International Tourism In India (1951-2004)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Tourist Arrivals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>16,829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>33,299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>1,23,095</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>1,47,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>1,80,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>4,65,275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>8,00,150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>8,36,908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>13,29,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>18,22,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>20,76,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>33,67,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Govt. Of India. (2004)
Growth of International Tourists in India (1951-2004)

No. of International Tourists

Years

2004
2000
1995
1990
1985
1980
1975
1970
1965
1960
1955
1951

Fig. 4.1
Table 4.2: Foreign Exchange Earnings Through Travel And Tourism In India. —(1973-2004)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Earnings (Rs. in Million)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1973-1974</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975-1976</td>
<td>1,896</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-1981</td>
<td>11,663</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>29,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>1,04,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>1,62,988</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>2,20,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


It was because of the efficiency of governments efforts through its agencies ITDC by making publicity throughout the world.

Through the various five years of plan period, government has always tried to achieve same goals for the development of tourism. But there is shift from the public to private sector. The disinvestment policy was strongly implemented and it was decided that to establish effective co-ordination with all the relevant agencies so as to achieve synergy in the development of tourism. Rs. 511.32 crore was allocated for the tourism development. Apart from this Rs. 391.23 crore was generated by ITDC through interval and extra budgetary resources.

The new Tourism Policy (2002) takes into consideration seven key areas that will provide the thrust to tourism development. These are, Swagat (Welcome), Soochana (Information), Suvidha (facilitation), Suraksha (safety), Sahyog (cooperation), Samarachang (Infrastructure Development) and Safai (Cleanliness).
4.4 Tourism In Maharashtra:

Historically, from ancient time people of Maharashtra visited various tourist centres, particularly pilgrimage tourism. But there was lack of organized tourism and no one can concentrate towards this important sector of economy. The first effort made by state Government towards the development of tourism in the state, was establishment of Maharashtra Tourism Sanchanalaya in 1969. On the basis of ITDC the State Government has established Maharashtra Tourism Development corporation (MTDC) in 1975, for the planned development of the tourism sector, regional offices are established in different cities such as Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, Nashik, Kolhapur, Amravati and Aurangabad to find out new tourist places and their development, guidance, promotion tourists to visit Maharashtra which is known as the ‘Great Land’ the name itself implies, occupies a prominent position in western India.

There is a great scope for tourism development in Maharashtra, government of Maharashtra declared its first tourism policy in October 1993. For the first time tourism sector was given the status of an industry by giving various incentives to this sector which is applicable to the industrial sector. This policy is having the following objectives. –

1) to plan growth of tourism with the help of experts and local people.
2) to collect information regarding tourist attractions.
3) to achieve the quality of tourist facilities.
4) to provide low budget accommodation and transport facilities.
5) to promote local arts and crafts.
To achieve the above mentioned objectives MTDC has classified tourist centres in Seven categories:

i) Hill resort Mahabaleshwar.
ii) Beach resort – Kihim
iii) Lakes – Bhandara
iv) Hot spring – Vajreshwari
v) National parks and wild life sanctuaries – Borivali
vi) Pilgrimage centre – Pandharpur
vii) Historical Monuments – a) forts – Murud Janijira
     b) caves – Ajanta

Along with these three levels of development of tourism was undertaken

a) Special Tourism Areas: Out of thirty-five districts nine districts were identified under this scheme.

b) Mega Projects: Both government of Maharashtra and MTDC were involved in the development of Mega Projects such as the –
   i) Western Region or the Konkan
   ii) The central Region or Marathawada
   iii) The Vidharbha Region.

c) Master Plans: The master plans prepared for a period of ten years (1993-2003) intend to develop the various areas.

d) Land Policy: The rules and regulation of certain areas which are suitable for tourism zone. The state government and MTDC has given certain relaxation in existing zoning system.

e) Development of Tourism Infrastructure: Although for the rapid development of tourism within the state, the MTDC has taken up the task to upgrade the existing infrastructure
facilities at various tourists sites. There were some hurdles in the development of tourism. To overcome these hurdles a new policy was declared by the State government which was known as Tourism Policy – 1999.

4.5 State Tourism Policy – 1999:

After reviewing 1993 tourism policy the government of Maharashtra declared the new tourism policy in 1999 and it was implemented from April 1st 1999 to 31st March 2004. The major features of the Policy were as follows:

1. Status of an ‘Industry’ is given to the tourism sector and state is divided into four specific zones. A, B, C, and D for the development of tourism project.

2. Concession in land revenue rules and regulation.

3. Various concessions were given for those who are interested to establish heritage hotels, motels etc.

With these measures State Government has planned to develop tourism with the help of MTDC within the State. The attitude of the government is that if the international tourists are taken care of the domestic tourist flow will automatically be ensured (Chakravaraty, 1999)

To reduce the financial burden on the State Government it was decided to promote private sector participation in tourism development. Particularly in accommodation sector, by giving concession to the investor. One part of this the state government handed over 12 tourist accommodation and 38 restaurants to the private sectors. All these plans are passed by the Ministry of tourism of State.
To implement tourism policy with effectively the 'Empowered Committee,' under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary has been formed. Along with this government seeks to promote tourism related education by starting tourism related courses under the universities in the state. A center for performing arts and training tourists guide will also be set up with the government initiative.

Each state government has adopted the policy to promote domestic tourism in our century as per the guide lines laid down by the central government. The table-4.3 reveals the tremendous growth in domestic tourist in our country due to various reasons. Therefore centre and state government has given more emphasis on promoting domestic tourism. During the last decade the domestic tourist visit increased from 63 million in the year 1990 to 210 million in the year 2000.

Table No.4.3 : Phenomenal Explosion of Domestic Tourism in India

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Domestic Tourists (in millions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India (2002)
4.6 Tourism Development in Akkalkot:

Akkalkot is a town of historical as well as religious importance. The town has become holy place due to Shri Swami Samarth Maharaj. There are two important holy places of Shri Swami Samarth viz, Shri Vatvriksha Swami Maharaj Devasthan on Maindargi Road and Shri Swami Samarth Maharaj Samadhi Math in Budhwar Peth in the Akkalkot town. Besides these, there are various temples, Maths in the town.


Table No.4.4 and fig 4.2 Clearly depict arrivals and growth of pilgrims in Akkalkot during 1988 to 2000. The number of pilgrims arrivals was increased from 6.7 lakhs in 1988 to 11.9 lakhs in 2000. It means during the last 12 years arrivals of pilgrims in Akkalkot Destination was increased by 77.62 per cent. The maximum growth of pilgrims in Akkalkot was recorded during 1988-89 (9.95Lakhs) followed by 1990-1991 (7.69Lakhs) and 1991-92 (7.14Lakhs). While least growth of pilgrims is observed in 1999-2000. It was due to acute problem of drinking water. The expected growth of pilgrims in the year 2005 will be 14.2 lakhs.(Fig.4.2)

Arrivals of pilgrims have been increasing in Akkalkot mainly due to the importance of this holy place, which is well connected by rail and road network and increase in the frequencies of the Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation buses and private transport vehicles which reduce the travel time and easy to their native places.
### Table 4.4 Akkalkot Town


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Trend Values of Pilgrims (in lakhs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>8.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>9.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>10.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>10.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>10.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>11.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>2005</em></td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


*Predication of pilgrims flow in the year 2005 A.D.*
AKKALKOT TOWN
GROWTH TREND OF PILGRIMS (1988 - 2004)

Trend Line by Least Squares Method

Fig: 4.2
The town is having historical importance. The rulers of the town built two palaces, known as Old Palace and New Palace. The development of the town from tourism point of view, the following three institutions are making an effort—

1. Municipal council of Akkalkot (Government Organization)
2. Shree Vatvriksh Swami Samarth Maharaj Devasthan Committee Maindargi Road; Akkalkot. (Non – Government Organization)
3. Shree Swami Samarth Ananchatra Mandal; Maindargi Road; Akkalkot.

1. **Municipal Council of Akkalkot (Govt. Organization)**:

Akkalkot is one of the oldest Municipality Towns in the State of Maharashtra which is established in the year 1904. Today, it is a ‘B’ class Municipal corporation. The role of Municipal in the development of town is very important. As town is famous for religious function, Municipal corporation submitted ‘Tirth Kshetra Vikas Arakhada’ of Rupees One Crore to the State Government of Maharashtra in the year 1996 to provide basic infrastructure facilities to the pilgrims. Due to the religious nature of the town, in the year 1997 government of Maharashtra has declared Akkalkot as a Tirth Kshetra with the sanction of Rupees one crore. With the help of various government authorities the following infrastructure facilities were developed within the town.

i) Widening of main road from Solapur Road Naka to Shree Vatvriksha Swami Samarth Maharaj Temple.
ii) Electrification of Main Road to Shree Vatvruksh Swami Samarth Maharaj Temple.

iii) Extension of Maharashtra State Road Transport corporation Bus Stand.

Municipal council in its annual budget is allocating some amount for development of the town from tourism point of view. In the year 2003-2004 Rs. 10,000 was allocated. Recently government of Maharashtra has completed a by-pass road by private sector under the scheme of Build, Operate and Transfer Policy (BOT). Due to this by-pass road the traffic pressure is reduced and to some extent town is free from environmental problem.

Municipal council is making various plans for the development of the town. A special town development plan was sanctioned by state government known as “Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns” (IDSM). The total plan outlay is of Rs. 2.5 crores. In this plan the following aspects were considered for town development. Such as widening of internal roads, Gardens, Beautification of town, underground drainage system and parking space.
A new revised Tirth Kshetra Vikar Arakhada of Rs. 1210.00 Lakh was submitted to the government of Maharashtra. (Table 4.5)

Table 4.5: Akkalkot Town-
The Revised Plan for Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Name of the Scheme</th>
<th>Required Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Development of Internal Roads</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Dharamshala (Accommodation)</td>
<td>050.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MSRTC – Extension of Area</td>
<td>050.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Development of Shaikh Nurradin Lake</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Underground Drainage</td>
<td>400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Garden</td>
<td>030.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Other Special Scheme</td>
<td>060.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Electrification</td>
<td>120.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Rupees</td>
<td>1210.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Municipality, Akkalkot. (2005)

2) Shri Vatvriksha Swami Maharaj Devasthan Committee, Maindargi Road, Akkalkot. :(Non-Govt. Organization)

Shree Vatvriksha Devasthan Committee established in the year 1953. It is playing a vital role in development of town from tourism point of view by providing various facilities to the pilgrims. The major emphasis is on construction of rooms for accommodation purpose. In the temple itself they have constructed 50 rooms. Another accommodation site is 200 meter away from the temple is known as Muralidhar Mandir. Here cot based system of accommodation is available to pilgrims at reasonable charge.
Bhakt Nivas a recently constructed accommodation facility by the trust as per requirement of the pilgrims. It is located one km towards the south east of the temple that is towards Maindargi Road. In all at a time 5000 pilgrims tourist can be accommodated. The charges are moderate for per room.

Apart from this the trust is making provision of various types of rituals at minimum charges. The rituals like Abhishek, Laghurudra etc. They are proposing a plan for construction of Dhyandama Kendra, Religious Library and well equipped hospital facility to needy persons and tourists. Trust is facing the problem of land acquisition, even though Municipal council has reserved the surrounding area of the temple. Therefore widening of temple site is not possible by the trust. To avoid mass casualty at the time of festivals, District Collector should take initiative and solve the land acquisition problem.

3) **Shree Swami Samarth Annachatra Mandal, Maindargi Road, NGO Akkalkot:**

It was started in the year 1988. It is also located 500 meter away from temple in South east direction. within a short span of time it has grown like Vatvriksha and has become famous in our country. The major work of this Mandal from tourism development point of view is that after accommodation a tourist requires good food facility. This requirement of the pilgrims is fulfilled by this Mandal. They are providing Prasad of Swamiji in the form of food at free of cost. Daily an average of 3000 pilgrims are taking prasad.
Recently they have built Yatri Nivas where dormitory and family type of accommodation facilities are provided to the pilgrims. The accommodation capacity is up to three thousand persons.

Apart from this they provide a special parking facility for long route MSRTC buses, private luxury buses and others. They have also given space for reservation counter for MSRTC buses. This town is active everyday due to tourist touring for religious and historical importance of the town. Municipal corporation, and these two NGOs are making their best effort to provide maximum facilities to the pilgrims. Therefore, it reveals that, there is a tremendous scope for development in Akkalkot.

4.8 Conclusion:

The origin, growth and development of tourism in India is closely associated with the history of human civilization. The travel in ancient and medieval period was mainly for trade, commerce and religious purpose. After various efforts made by the Central government there is positive increase in international tourist. It is found that still we are not able to achieve the maximum benefit from international tourism. In the year 1951, there were about 16,829 tourist who had visited India it increased 33,67,000 tourists in the year 2004. The new tourism policy was declared by the Government of India to attract maximum tourists.

Maharashtra the Great Land as the name implies a distinct position in Western India. Through Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) the government is trying to achieve goals of tourism development in the State. The State is having tremendous potential for the development of its varied
natural and cultural tourism resources. State tourism policy of 1993 and 1999 were able to achieve some target of tourism development by giving tourism a status of industry.

Major part of domestic tourism is constituted by pilgrimage tourism in India. Akkalkot is one of the major pilgrimage destinations. The growth trend of pilgrims shows that it will develop very rapidly within the short span of period. It is due to various efforts made by Municipal corporation, Shri Vatvarksh Swami Samarth Devasthan Committee and Shree Swami Samarth Annachhatra Mandal of Akkalkot. It is found that the efforts are not able to cope up with the demand of the pilgrims.

The Vatvruksha Swami Samarth Temple is located in a very congested area and encroached by residential and commercial activity. At present the safety of the pilgrims in the temple is in poor state due to lack of open space in side the temple and small exit gate.

Devasthan Committee and government should take necessary action immediately to avoid accidents which took place at “Mandhar Devi” in Wai Tahsil of Satara district of Maharashtra on 25th January 2005.
Safety Precautionary Measures in Shree Swami Samarth Temple:

The Vatvruksh Swami Samarth temple is located in very congested area and encroached by shops. The total space available to the temple is very limited. Within that space there are number of rooms constructed for the purpose of office and accommodation and Mandap hall for multiple use. Around the temple residential and commercial area is occupied by the population. If we observe the inner location of temple there are three gates which are used for the entry and exit of pilgrims. At present the flow of pilgrims is large and if something happens at that time it is not possible to exit from the temple. Therefore to take safety precautionary measure, it is suggested that the following changes should be done on top priority in and around the temple site.

It is suggested that demolish all the existing accommodation rooms, mandap and construct a wide sealing from the border area of the temple, make provision of two large size exit gates, due to availability of wide open space. Pilgrims can take darshan in a systematic manner (Row type).

Enter the temple pilgrims require a wide open space which is not available at present. Therefore it is necessary to shift the entire present commercial shops at least 300 meters away from their existing place. Open area will be used for the parking purpose.

It is also suggested that provision of close circuit television inside and outside the temple should be made available for the pilgrims on specific days during which large number of pilgrims visit the temple.
AKKALKOT TOWN
EXISTING LAY-OUT OF SHRI SWAMI SAMARTH TEMPLE

INDEX
A - ACCOMMODATION
COMM. - COMMERCIAL
■ - BANYAN TREE
■ - COCONUT BREAKING POINT

Map - Not to Scale

Fig - 4.3
The main problem for implementing this scheme is that present trust is not under the control of government, the problems are rising in demolishing and shifting of the existing places. Therefore, it is an urgent requirement of the pilgrims that government should take initiative in this work then only hundred percent change in the present scenario is possible and they can avoid accident which took at Mandhar Devi fair in Wai Tahsil of Satara district of Maharashtra on 25th January 2005. It is also suggested that some basic measures as per guide lines given by State government of Maharashtra on 10th March 2005 should be taken into consideration by Devasthan Committee. The guidelines are as follow,

1) Status of road within the town-Narrow or Wider in position
2) Separate route for To and Fro to pilgrims
3) Availability of emergence route
4) Control cabin and close circuit T.V. facility
5) Safer electric supply arrangement
6) Breaking point of Coconut
7) Fire brigade, Ambulance and Medical facility
8) Drinking water, S. T. BUS arrangement
9) Control on Pilgrims flow.
References: