

Tourism And Hospitality Management In Karnataka: An Analytical Study

Prof, DR, M.S., Nigam

Department of Commerce,
Bundekhand University, Jhansi ,Uttar Pradesh

Chandrashekarappa U

Lecturer , Dept of Commerce
Govt First Grade College,
NR Pura

Abstract

One of the major sources of income for India's current Gross Domestic Product is the tourism and hotel industry. When the tourism products are combined, the various related activities that make up the tourism service sector are present. Products required to supply the demand for travel-related lodging and food away from can be used to identify the hospitality business. In conclusion, hospitality and tourism play a significant role in Karnataka's economy and are integral to its overall growth and development. With its rich cultural heritage, natural beauty, and warm hospitality, Karnataka continues to attract tourists from all over the world and offers a diverse range of experiences for travelers to explore and enjoy. The present study tries to explore the hospitality management of Karnataka Government toward the development and promotion of tourism in Karnataka.

Key Words: Gross Domestic Product, Tourism Products , Hospitality, Natural Beauty

Introduction

India is a popular travel destination in the world and offers a wide variety of tourist attractions. Due to its wide-ranging diversity, it has always drawn tourists and locals alike who are interested in experiencing the joy and merriment it has to offer. Every nook and crevice of the nation offers magnificent and exclusive tourism resources that reflect the local culture and history. There are very few nations in the world that provide such a vast diversity of tourist. Karnataka is a country with a rich historical past and abundant natural resources. Hampi, Pattadakal, and the Karnataka Western Ghats are three UNESCO World Heritage Sites that the State is pleased to hold. In addition, the proposed list of World Heritage Sites includes four additional locations: Aihole BadamiPattadakal, Kalaburagi-Bidar-Vijayapura (Deccan Sultanate), Srirangapatna, and Belur-Halebidu. The State is home to approximately 840 State-protected monuments, over 600 ASI-protected monuments, and a number of important religious and sacred sites.

Karnataka, located in the southern part of India, is a state known for its rich cultural heritage, diverse landscapes, and historic landmarks. The hospitality and tourism industry in Karnataka play a crucial role in the state's economy and have been a major contributor to its growth and development.

The state of Karnataka boasts a wide range of tourist attractions, including UNESCO World Heritage Sites, ancient temples, pristine beaches, lush forests, wildlife sanctuaries, and cosmopolitan cities. It is home to popular tourist destinations like Bengaluru (the capital city), Mysuru, Hampi, Coorg, and many more. Karnataka's rich cultural heritage and history, along with its natural beauty, make it a popular destination for both domestic and international tourists.

The hospitality industry in Karnataka has seen significant growth over the years, with a diverse range of accommodation options available for travelers, including luxury hotels, budget hotels, resorts, homestays, and guesthouses. The state also has a well-developed transportation infrastructure, including airports, railways, and roadways, making it accessible to tourists from all over the world.

Karnataka is also known for its warm and hospitable people who welcome tourists with open arms, making their stay in the state a memorable one. The local cuisine, which is a blend of various regional flavors, is also a major attraction for food lovers, and the state's traditional arts and crafts, music, and dance forms are also popular among tourists.

The tourism industry in Karnataka not only contributes to the state's economic growth but also provides employment opportunities to local communities, thereby promoting socio-economic development. The state government, along with various tourism boards, has been taking initiatives to promote tourism and hospitality in Karnataka, including infrastructure development, marketing campaigns, and policy reforms.

In conclusion, hospitality and tourism play a significant role in Karnataka's economy and are integral to its overall growth and development. With its rich cultural heritage, natural beauty and warm hospitality, Karnataka continues to attract tourists from all over the world and offers a diverse range of experiences for travelers to explore and enjoy.

Review of Literature

Chandrashekara (2009) Due to its natural beauty and range of agricultural goods, Karnataka has a greater potential for agritourism expansion. Agrotourism businesses in Karnataka have a strong chance of expanding because more than 38% of the population wants to experience rural living yet lives in urban regions. Agrotourism introductions and unique concepts for agrotourism should be provided by state agricultural institutions' departments of agriculture. In order to maximise their revenue, the government and other groups ought to try to support these companies. Finally, this would result in the creation of jobs and the flow of income.

Azeez Sait (1977) To plan and implement the programmes to promote tourism under the Five Year Plans, the national organisational structure must be enhanced. The tourism industry is quite delicate. Unrest in the world's politics and economy has an immediate impact on the industry. Since it is a people-to-people movement, everyone employed in the tourism and hospitality sectors can support its promotion.

Harini (2010) It was made evident by the case study that there had been little investment in new facilities. It is essential to make expenditures to improve connection and amenities at the campground. There are two benefits to promoting rainforest lodges as a cutting-edge tourism alternative. It generates income for the state government while also helping to preserve the environment. The concept has become very popular, and many other states' forest authorities are interested in pushing it as ecotourism, according to N.D. Tiwari, managing director of Jungle Lodges and Resorts. He alleges that by offering packages fit for the area, the jungle lodges targeted to a certain customer. The achievement of Jungle Lodges in promoting ecotourism serves as an illustration of effective tourist innovation.

Kulkarni (2010) Using information from 600 sample tourists dispersed among 12 selected tourist spots in Karnataka, the research's goal is to examine the level of cleanliness and how it affects the tourism business. The chosen tourist spots don't have the most basic sanitary facilities, such bathrooms, garbage cans, drainages, etc., with the exception of Dharmasthala. Poor cleanliness led to tourist sickness and a drop in tourism business revenue. Poor sanitation is projected to have cost the state Rs. 3063 crores, or 0.30 percent of the total Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), in total, including the cost of sickening tourists and lost tourism industry revenue. (2009-10).

Misra & Thangamani (1982) "Tourism complex planning," which strives to maximise benefits in terms of social, economic, and ecological goals on the one hand, and visitor happiness on the other, is the integrated development of tourism resources as well as tourist activities. In terms of tourism nodes, areas, and networks, both tourist facilities and resources have geographic consequences. A tourist complex is a collection of functionalities that have been spatially established and are linked to and reliant upon one another. To demonstrate the value of tourism complex planning, the Mysore micro-complex is examined. Findings suggest that linking Mysore to three more popular tourist destinations in the South Karnataka region may have the effect of forming a macro-complex. To achieve this, rigorous, integrated planning at both the macro and micro levels is required.

Objectives of the Study

The primary objective of the study is to analyse the hospitality management of Government of Karnataka to develop and promoting the tourism in Karnataka.

Methodology

The study is in analytical in nature, covering the conceptual aspects relating to the hospitality and tourism of Karnataka Government towards tourism development and promotion of tourism. The other aspect of the tourism and hospitality is outside the present scope. The study is purely based on the secondary data. The secondary sources are, Karnataka Tourism Policy reports, research article, journals, websites etc.

- 1. Tourism Destinations:** Karnataka is home to several popular tourist destinations. The capital city of Bengaluru, also known as the "Silicon Valley of India," is a major hub for business and leisure travelers alike. Other popular destinations include Mysuru (Mysore), known for its rich heritage and palaces, Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site famous for its ancient ruins, and Coorg, a picturesque hill station known for its coffee plantations.
- 2. Cultural Heritage:** Karnataka has a rich cultural heritage with a history that dates back to ancient times. The state is known for its temples, monuments, and festivals. The famous Hampi ruins, which were once the capital of the Vijayanagara Empire, are a major tourist attraction. Other important heritage sites include the temples of Belur and Halebid, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Pattadakal, and the rock-cut temples of Badami.
- 3. Wildlife and Nature:** Karnataka is home to several national parks and wildlife reserves, making it a popular destination for wildlife enthusiasts. Bandipur National Park, Nagarhole National Park, and Bannerghatta National Park are among the popular wildlife reserves in the state, known for their diverse flora and fauna. Karnataka also has beautiful beaches like Gokarna and Karwar, and hill stations like Coorg and Chikmagalur, offering opportunities for trekking, camping, and other adventure activities.
- 4. Eco-Tourism:** Karnataka has also been promoting eco-tourism initiatives in recent years to encourage responsible tourism and conservation of natural resources. Agumbe Rainforest, known as the "Cherrapunji of South India," is a popular eco-tourism destination known for its biodiversity and conservation efforts. The Kudremukh National Park, famous for its grasslands and shola forests, is another eco-tourism destination in Karnataka.
- 5. Hospitality Industry:** The hospitality industry in Karnataka has seen significant growth, with a wide range of accommodation options, including luxury hotels, resorts, homestays, and guesthouses. Many popular international hotel chains have established their presence in Bengaluru and other major cities in the state. The traditional hospitality of Karnataka, with its warm and friendly people, also adds to the charm of tourism in the state.
- 6. Adventure Tourism:** Karnataka offers ample opportunities for adventure tourism, with activities like trekking, white-water rafting, rock climbing, and wildlife safaris. Spots like Dandeli in North Karnataka are popular for river rafting, while Kodachadri and Kumara Parvatha are well-known trekking destinations. Bheemeshwari and Coorg also offer opportunities for adventure activities like camping, zip-lining, and coracle rides.
- 7. Medical Tourism:** Karnataka has emerged as a popular destination for medical tourism in recent years, with its world-class hospitals and medical facilities. Bengaluru, in particular, has become a hub for medical tourism, attracting patients from all over the world for various medical procedures, including cardiac surgeries, organ transplants, and cosmetic surgeries.

- 8. Awareness and Training:** Throughout their journey, travelers interact with several people, making tourism a labor-intensive sector. Thus, it is essential to make sure that everyone involved in the tourism business is made aware of the value of adhering to the shared safety and health requirements. To improve Karnataka's reputation as a trustworthy and safe travel destination, a trained and knowledgeable workforce is essential.
- 9. Accessibility:** It is recommended that facilities like ramps, escalators, and other types of aided access be made available at all important tourist locations to ensure that those with special needs, the elderly, and people with disabilities have easy and secure access.
- 10. Tourism Mitra:** For the safety and security of tourists, a tourism police force known as "Tourist Mitra" will be stationed at important tourist locations. To guarantee that tourists have a nice journey, tourist safety and guidance centers must be constructed at all popular places, particularly at important points of entry like airports, train stations, and well-known bus terminals.
- 11. Grievance Redressal:** To address problems encountered by visitors and take steps to improve Karnataka Tourism's grievance redressal systems, a dedicated online grievance redressal system would be built. A special 24-hour, one-stop helpline will be established just for the convenience of visitors.
- 12. Involvement of Local Self Government:** To ensure that tourist development operations are integrated with other developmental activities of the local government / authority, local bodies will be encouraged to organise destination-level tourism working groups composed of local stakeholders. The importance of cleanliness at tourist places must be made clear to the local people and authorities, and the required assistance must be given.
- 13. Integrity of Natural and Built Environment:** The goal of Karnataka Tourism is to preserve and improve the natural surroundings of tourist spots. In order to guarantee that the constructed environment in tourist destinations is in keeping with the local natural environment and cultural history, Karnataka Tourism shall also endeavour to offer direction and appropriate recommendations to the relevant authorities. For new and expanded tourism projects, the use of regional materials and adherence to regional architectural styles shall be promoted.
- 14. Environmentally Sustainable Practices:** In order to create standards and norms for ecologically sustainable operations, tourism destinations, particularly eco-sensitive destinations and Protected Areas, must conduct research on the carrying capacity of the industry. Mechanisms for the implementation and oversight of sustainable practices in these locations will be developed based on studies on the carrying capacity of the tourism industry. For new and expanded tourism initiatives, adherence to regional architectural styles shall be encouraged.

Conclusion

Karnataka offers a diverse range of tourism experiences, including cultural heritage, wildlife, nature, eco-tourism, adventure tourism, and medical tourism. The hospitality industry in Karnataka has also grown significantly to cater to the needs of tourists, making it a popular destination for travelers seeking unique and enriching experiences. Overall, hospitality management in Karnataka offers a diverse and dynamic industry with ample opportunities for career growth and development. With the right education, training, and skills, professionals can build successful careers in this exciting field and contribute to the growth of the hospitality industry in Karnataka.

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