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POTENTIAL AND PLANNING FOR ECO-TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OF EAST KAMENG DISTRICT WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PAPPU VALLEY OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

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Abstract

Mountainous areas are sacred because they possess beauty and they inspire mankind. There are unique, unexplored and less gathered places to attract the tourists. At the present days people are more interested in visiting unknown, less polluted and peaceful places of nature. Tourists prefer less crowded and attractive natural areas in comparison to the popular choky old tourist destinations. The ecological value of a place was determined from two aspects: (i) value as vegetation and (ii) value to birds. To evaluate the vegetation, we selected conservation sites and suitable sites for enhancement considering common and recovery potential of vegetation, and access to users and construction equipment. We determined that the area of forest, the number of forest vertical layers, and forest pattern help sustain avian diversity and contribute toward the area functioning as an ornithic corridor.

The Pappu valley has a tremendous hybridity in all the natural and cultural features. The beautiful mountainous physiography, desirable valleys, erstwhile river flowing are the dignified physical exorcism present in the study area. The green valley, mushy grassy field, stream with bubble, several types of flora and fauna and hygienic climate found in the study area.

Keywords: Eco-tourism, Place of attraction, People and multicultural, Tradition and craft

I. INTRODUCTION

Arunachal Pradesh is a comparatively unexplored and unique area, in terms of both geography and cultural diversity as it provides one with a glimpse. The rich flora, fauna, diverse physiography and tribal groups have of late, started attracting domestic as well as foreign tourists into the region and presently, community-based tourism has gained importance.

East Kameng district has three valleys namely - Pappu Valley, Pakke Valley and Passa Valley are worth seeing from the road top. The meandering rivers makes them more beautiful. On the left and right banks of the Pappu River paddy fields are grown. Lumdung is famous for migratory birds at the time of winter season. During summer season the pappu valley become green with natural beauty. Lumdung-Pappu Valley comes under Seppa Block, Pakke and Rilloh Valley come under the Pakke-Kessang Block HQ, Pakke-Kessang, is situated in Pakke-Valley. Lumdung (Pappu) is 21 kms, Passa (Rilloh) is 78 kms and Pakke is 140 kms from Seppa, the district headquarter. One can hire a sumo or van for visit these places and stay in Inspection Bungalows. Pakke-Kessang is a high altitude cold place and one should have warm clothing.

1.1. Etymological meaning

The meaning of "Arunachal Pradesh", is "The Land of the Rising Sun," widely recognized region of the Indian subcontinent, found the mention in such ancient Hindu literature as the epic poems Mahabharata and Ramayana.

The name of Pappu Valley derives from Pappu River flows through the valley. The river is left bank tributary of Kameng River and Kameng River is a right bank tributary of Brahmaputra River. So, the Pappu River is a sub-tributary of Brahmaputra River. Pappu is a male given name in some regions of India, which is taken from the Hindi word Pappu which is a nickname for a small boy in India.

1.2. Study Area

East Kameng district is situated in the western part of Arunachal Pradesh lies between $92^{\circ}30'$ and $93^{\circ}24'$ East longitudes and $26^{\circ}56'$ and $27^{\circ}59'$ North latitudes with covering an area of 4134 sq. km. The district is surrounded in the east by Lower Subansiri and Papumpare districts of Arunachal Pradesh, Sonitpur district of Assam on the south east, West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh on the west and Tibet as well as a part of Lower Subansiri district on the north.

Basically Pappu valley is a hill lock valley where Pappu River flows in meandering pattern which makes the valley more attractive. Pappu valley is famous for its natural beauty, unique flora and fauna, turbulent river and colourful festivals and the Valley also well known for cultivation. Most of the food grains production in Arunachal Pradesh produced by three valley the Pappu valley, Pakke Valley and Passa Valley.

II. OBJECTIVES

Primary objective of the study is to identify the potential for Cultural Tourism in East Kameng district with special reference to Pappu valley. Secondary objectives are as follows:

- 2.1. To assess the socio-economic conditions of East kameng district.
- 2.2. To promote tourism in East Kameng district as well as Arunachal Pradesh
- 2.3. To put a spacial attention on the place for development of eco-tourism industry.
- 2.4. To knowing more about the culture and tradition of the native people of the area.

III. METHODOLOGY

Method of study of any field makes the study easier, reliable, and effective. Here I have been collected Primary and Secondary data from the various Books, journals, Websites and Interview of local people.

3.1. Secondary data

The main source of secondary data that were collected from the following official websites. Data taken from the official websites of the several state governments and Government of India. Promotional components and information provided by the Ministry of Tourism and Culture - Government of India and tourism departments of the state Arunachal Pradesh.

3.2. Primary data

3.2.1. Interviews – This was the main method of data collection foster to the government and to local community representatives. An interview guideline was prepared. All of data from interviews was documented through notes taken by the interviewers rather than through tape or video recordings as the latter would not have been appropriate with several government office.

3.2.2. Focus group discussions – In order to collective aspects from local community members, focus group advice were organized. A discussion guideline was prepared for the communicating the discussions.

IV. ECO-TOURISM OF THE STUDY AREA

Eco-tourism is a growing up industry that refers to the idea of traveling to places of natural beauty, refreshment, moving around and time spend with the places of nature for few days. Its main aims at conserving environment and improvement the welfare of the local people. With her sceneries beauty and climatic condition that found in outside of the crowded city and the Pappu valley has countless scope for eco-tourism. Eco-tourism is originate in the concept of sustainable development. Eco-tourism is often realized as a tool for promoting sustainable development in developing countries. The eco-tourism is one kinds of sustainable tourism, both eco-friendly and culturally, which has the ability to assure economic and social benefits to the whole society. The total reserved forest area of the East Kameng district is 862 square km consisting Pakhui Wild Life Sanctuary, Seijosa and Seppa Forest division and Khellong Forest Division.

V. CONNECTIVITY OF THE AREA

It is a road deficient state, with a road density of 18 Km/100 Sq. Km, which compares poorly with the national average of 84 Km/100 Sq. Km and North East average of 60 Km/100 Sq. Km. The Valley connected with NH13, 188 km distance from the state capital Itanagar and 24 km distance from district capital Seppa, also connected by NH-13. Some state government bus, private bus, travellers, sumo, are runs daily among district capital and state capital.

VI. PLACE OF ATTRACTION

Many places are unique and rich in beautiful scene and biodiversity, among them some are listed here:

6.1. View of Pappu valley - the Pappu River flowing through the valley in a zigzag pattern that scene create a Conspicuous, glorious and a unique view of the valley.

6.2. Hill Stations of East Kameng - Bameng, Chayangtajo and Pakke-Kessang are cool places which are like hill stations. This place are 48 kms, 81 and 141 kms gradually way from Seppa. Chayangtajo is well-known for "Gorichaan", the snow covered Mountain peak which can also be seen from Bameng.

6.3. Paragliding spot - Ten days training course of paragliding held at Lumdung in East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh concludes on 26th Dec, 2019. Ten days training course was organized by Arunachal Pradesh Society for Education & Development (APSED) with the support from the Department of Tourism, Government of Arunachal Pradesh. The mountainous village lumdung in Papu Valley of East Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh is being promoted for paragliding to attractive adventure lovers to Pappu Valley, as well as East Kameng.

6.4. Snow view point - Snow View Point is one of the most visited places by tourists for watching majestic Himalayas from Airping and Lumdung. Known as best view point in East Kameng district. Snow view point offers tourists an excellent views of snowcapped mountains especially at morning.

6.5. Waterfalls - Many small and medium waterfalls makes the place more attractive like Lumum waterfall, sibibok waterfall, Kakusadang waterfall and out of them two waterfalls this are Patacheda waterfall and Airping water falls nearby Pappu valley.

6.6. Lumdung Lake - Lumdung Lake is an artificial lake that situated in the Pappu valley is well known for boating.

6.7. Picnic spot - two picnic spot are create by the local people, they build Bamboo Bridge, hut and homestay with a unique design at the time of November over the Pappu River. One of them is permanent homestay.

VII. PEOPLE AND CULTURAL ATTRACTION

The state has a lowest population density, the total population of the district according to 2001 census is 57,179 in which only 28,802 males and 28,377 females having a population density 14 persons per square km. Arunachal Pradesh has diversification of 26 major tribes and more than 100 sub-tribes with its own several traditions and customs.

The Major tribes inhabiting the East Kameng district are Bangnis called Nyishi, Akas, Mijis and Puroiks known as Sulung. Every tribe has their own dialects, religion, and customs. Cultural and social events are very much combined with their life, environment and other related activities practiced by those tribes.

7.1. Bangni Tribe - The Bangnis also called Nishi, Nishang, Nissi or Dafla and Sullungs found in the area communicable to the North Eastern Kameng extending up to Lower Subansiri District. The "Nyokum Yullo" is the famous festival of the Bangni tribe which is celebrated in the month of February. The local priest called nibu does the deviation by searching the liver of a fowl and the yolk of an egg gradually. On the other site where the festival is Accomplished is called Nyokum Kyageng. The Marriage system of the Bangnis complete through the process of formal Interlocution between the parents of both families. At first both families are fixed the bride price payment, after the girl comes to live with the husband. There is no formal ritual or celebration which mark the congestion of marriage. Various types of ornaments clad by the husband and the wife both.

7.2. Akas Tribe -The inhabit of Akas follows in the Bana Area and Mijis found in the eastern region of West Kameng District. The festival "Nechidau or Nechido" is celebrated by the tribe of Aka in Arunachal Pradesh. The festival is celebrated in the month of November each year and go on for four days.

7.3. Sulung Tribe – The Sulungs known as Puroiks are a very distraught tribe. The society of sulung tribe is based on the village community and some cases they are dependent upon their Bangni Master. The festival "Gumkum Gumpa" celebrate in the month of April by the Sulung tribe.

VIII. CRAFTS AND TRADITIONAL ATTRACTION

Traditional crafts of the Arunachal Pradesh needs to be included as a part of Cultural Tourism. The state is excellent with bamboo and cane work and baskets, mats, boxes, vases and a wide arrangement of beautiful items are made by the ethnic community. Although this products are not such a large scale, as these are generally produced for local use.

IX. OTHERS REASON

9.1. Abetment of Climate

The East Kameng district has tremendous climatic condition that varies largely with topography and altitude. The altitude of different office varies ranging from 362 m to 1906 m. The mountain zone is subtropical, hot and humid climate and average temperature decreases with increasing elevations in the mountains region. This cold climatic condition help to create a unique natural beauty of ice caped peak of mountain. The district perception heavy rainfall between June and October average precipitation is 287 mm falling mostly and in winter extreme cold. As a result of heavy rainfall during monsoon season, most of the rivers and streams are highly bloated and break up normal transport system and contact. Although heavy monsoon helps reproduction of forests, rainfall is also responsible for speedy soil erosion and landslides which make high cost for the road maintenance.

9.2. Agricultural attraction

One of the basic need for living is food that comes from the cultivation of various crops. We know that agriculture is the backbone of the economy of every society. East Kameng district has three famous agricultural green valley. The predominant character of Agriculture in the District is the practice of "Jhuming" cultivation. However the efforts of the government have been made over the years to wean people from "Jhum" cultivation. The major components of "Jhum" control programme of the district includes: (i) Reclamation of land, (ii) Wet rice cultivation, (iii) Irrigation supported by required inputs. The main thrust of agriculture of the District has been the food grain production. The rice production in the district is in good trend with local selling in the markets of Seppa and adjoining areas. Especially the rice productions in the three important belts like Papu valley, Passa valley and Pakke valley are much appreciative and known as the rice bowl of East Kameng District.

X. ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The people of Arunachal Pradesh specially known for diverse in cultural amazement. They have different forms of festivals, dances and handicrafts, depending on their tribe, occasion and geographical area. With so many tribes and belief systems Arunachal Pradesh became multi-cultural, most of the people worship "Dony Polo" which mean "Sun and Moon". The socio-economic condition of East Kameng district is not well. They are basically depended upon the government jobs and other Collaboration from the central government. Tourism industry can boost in a high frequency the socio-economic condition of Arunachal Pradesh. East Kameng as well as Pappu valley has the potential for Eco-tourism, Cultural Tourism and that can boost socio-economic condition of the place. The culture of the place is unique and attractive. If promoted properly, the state can earn huge revenue.

Strengths – Nature, scenic beauty; spontaneous hospitality; cultural and environmental heritage; Substitute healing through indigenious, medicinal plants and traditional massages; moderate climatic condition.

XI. LIMITATION FOR ECO-TOURISM

On the basis of the current study it can be say that there are some problems which are obstacle for eco-tourism development in the study area. These are:

- 11.1. Insufficiency of regular transport services for the destination.
- 11.2. Lack of staying facilities and catering services to satisfy the needs of all categories of tourists.
- 11.3. Lack of midway facilities especially in the hilly areas.
- 11.4. Less tourists' information Centre and lack of involvement of local people in tourism related activities.
- 11.5. Absence of tourism management committees.
- 11.6. Deficiency of awareness about eco-tourism among the local people and tourists.
- 11.7. Inferiority of training programs for local youth and women.

XII. PLANNING FOR ECO-TOURISM

Overall ecotourism development grow up by proper planning and strategies are needed in the study area after grasp the available and potential resources for ecotourism development. On the basis of this assessment an individual developed plan could be made for the study area. This are as follows:

- 12.1. Rigid laws and restrictions for travellers into the region are another impediment and the Government of India has certain permits such as the R.A.P (Restricted Area Permit), I.L.P (Inner Line Permit) and both Indian nationals and foreigners have to abide by them to gain entry into Arunachal Pradesh. The process of getting I.L.P should be effortless and mellifluous.
- 12.2. On the basis of the study the place has poor communication systems, especially transport as the region is landlocked and at times of natural crisis such as landslides, floods, etc, the region gets completely cut-off from the other region. The time table of all bus, sumo, and traveller are runs at the morning, so the recomendation for spreading time table from morning to afternoon.
- 12.3. They need to be improved few number of infra-structure and hotels and village homestay and country-stays should be encouraged. All types of homestay or hotel faciality should be given to tourist.
- 12.4. The region has unknown to all because lack of proper advertising, marketing, networking and publishing of materials relating to the region of India is yet another problem. Very few travellers, even in India, have little idea about the region.
- 12.5. Government Policy and general stability and security are a very important factor and stability in all the states and are necessary for any long-term sustainable eco-cultural-tourism plan in the region.

XIII. CONCLUSION

A planning for eco-tourism and cultural tourism in any region, it would be charming to observe particular guidelines and steps, such as those laid by the conference signed at the Rio Earth Summit, 1992, on Biological Diversity, for promoting sustainable development and the World Trade Organization Committee on Sustainable Development of Tourism (2004). With a multi-cultural tribal population offering a rainbow of authentic traditions, East Kameng as well as Pappu valley; Lumdung is poised to become an important 'Cultural and eco-tourism destination'. Large number of tribes their cultural diversity, homespun practices surround their life-styles have

tremendous potentials to attract tourist in the East Kameng district if supported by necessary infrastructure & right policies.

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