

# Senior Secondary Course

## Tourism (337)

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## Course Overview



### Module-1: Basics of Tourism

1. Evolution of Tourism
2. Tourism Industry and its Organization
3. Impact of Tourism
4. Fundamentals of Travel and Tourism Geography
5. Transport for Tourism

### Module-2: Cultural Dimension of Tourism

6. Understanding Indian Culture and Heritage
7. Performing Art Heritage in India
8. Indian Architecture as Tourist Attractions



### Module-3: Cultural and Heritage Aspects of Tourism in India

9. Culture and Heritages in India–I: Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism
10. Culture and Heritages in India–II: Sikhism, Islam and Christianity
11. Cultural Attractions of India

### Module-4: Natural Diversity as Tourist Attraction

12. Natural Tourist Attractions in India
13. Growth and Patterns of Tourism in India
14. Growth and Patterns of Tourism in World



### Module-5: Management of Tourism Business

15. Tourism Management
16. Human Resource Management-I
17. Human Resource Management-II
18. Communication and Personality Development
19. Tourism Marketing



### Module-6A: Travel and Tour Operation Business

20. Fundamentals of Travels Agency and Tour Operation Business
21. Functions of Travel Agencies and Tour Operations
22. Itinerary Planning and Tour Packaging

**OR**

### Module-6B: Hospitality Management

20. Hospitality and Catering Industry
21. Front Office Operations
22. Supporting Operations of Hotel

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# 9

## **CULTURE AND HERITAGE IN INDIA–I: HINDUISM, JAINISM AND BUDDHISM**

Beginning with the Indus valley civilization, in ancient times we have read that there were constant progressive changes in the Indian civilization. Brahmans dominated the society. The Kshatriyas controlled the polity and Vaishyas economy; Shudras comprised the lowest members in the society and rendered services to the people of the other varnas. By the 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. we see a profound change in society. The orthodox manner in which the Brahmans tried to control the people, led to the rise of new religions like Buddhism and Jainism. In this lesson, we shall also read about the Hindu way of life, and how two prominent religions, Buddhism and Jainism, came up as separate religions.



### **OBJECTIVES**

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- explain about the religion of the Hindus as well as their religious places;
- describe the teachings of Jainism as well as their religious places and
- discuss the teachings of Buddhism as well as their religious places.

### **9.1 HINDU**

The Hindu way of life is quite flexible in all respects, as it accepts into its fold almost any god and all devotees. There is no dogma and no single god or religious leader. Their rituals are colourful and festivities very active. Through

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their rituals, Hindus interact closely with the divine images which are often housed in temples. Seeing the divine images is important. Even the gods look back at the devotee with equal regard and concern. To see these divine images and to have close personal contact with them, Hindus often travel for pilgrimages to holy rivers, mountains and temples in all corners of the country. Hindus call them sacred places or *Tirtha* and the act of going on a pilgrimage is called *Tirtha-yatra*. The word *tirtha* means river ford, steps to a river, or place of pilgrimage. In Vedic times the word may have concerned only those sacred places associated with water, but by the time of the Mahabharata, *tirtha* had come to denote any holy place, be it a lake, mountain, forest, or cave. *Tirthas* are more than physical locations, however, the Hindus believe them to be spiritual places, the meeting place of heaven and earth, the locations where one crosses the endless cycle of birth, death and rebirth to reach the shore of liberation. Their visit to these places is called *tirth yatra*.

#### 9.1.1 Sacred Places and Heritage Sites of Hindus

For the Hindus, to visit the holy places is an act of great religious merit, once in a life-time for the attainment of salvation. Four of the holy places or *mathas* were established by Adi Shankaracharya, a great saint. Since these are situated in the four corners of India, it shows the socio-cultural integration and in the long run making India as a nation.

Besides the establishment of these *mathas* there were four *Dhams*, Badrinath, Puri, *Dwarka* and Rameshwaram. The devotees visiting these *Mathas* and *Dhams* can be categorized as religious tourists.

#### Dwaraka

*Dwaraka* in Gujarat is a very important shrine associated with Lord Krishna. The city is located on the Western coast of India. It was the capital of Krishna's kingdom and has some very important temples. The main temple is popularly known as Jagat Mandir.

#### Puri and Divine Chariots

Puri has the beautiful temple of Lord Jagannath who is the guardian deity of Odisha. It is one of the major centres chosen by Adi Shankaracharya in the 8<sup>th</sup> century A.D. to spread the eternal values of Hinduism. These are Badrinath in the Himalayas in the North, *Dwarka* on the sea in the west and Kanchi in the South Shringeri in Karnataka. The idol of Lord Jagannath, his brother Balram,

his sister Subhadra are placed side by side. One of the most interesting events associated with Puri is the annual Rath Yatra which is not only a major tourist attraction but a place for massive gathering of devotees who gather there. In this Rath Yatra, the three idols are taken out in their respective Rath, pulled by thousands of people on the streets of Puri. They are taken to the Gundicha temple and after some days are brought back to their eternal place. (Figure 9.1)



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**Figure 9.1 Puri**

### **Sringeri**

Sringeri is regarded as one of the most sacred Hindu pilgrimages in South India. It is in Kadir district of Mysore, situated on the left bank of the river Tunga. The main deity is Saraswati or Saradamba or Sarad Amma. It is believed that the Math is nonsectarian in practice and preaching. The mosque in the outskirts is known to have been built at the orders of one of the gurus for the Muslim employees. The Tunga river flows past the temple and thousands of fishes in the river gather at the Ghats to be handfed by the devotees who come here in very large numbers.

### **Jai Badri Vishal**

‘Jai Badri Vishal’ is the Part of the pilgrims visiting Badrinath, the home of Lord Vishnu. It is situated in the state of Uttarakhand. According to legend, Vishnu and his wife came to the right bank of river Alaknanda for meditation. The meditation undertaken by Vishnu was so long, that his wife Laxmi took the form of Badri tree to shelter her husband. Therefore the town came to be known as

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Badrinath. The present Badrinath temple was built by the Gaharwals. It has three sections like other Hindu temples:

- (i) Holy centre where the deity is erected.
- (ii) the area where rituals are performed.
- (iii) where pilgrims and worshippers gather. Pilgrims visit the place to worship the deity, which is carved of black stone in a seated position. Many of the pilgrims bathe in the Alaknanda river and take water from the hot spring in front of the Vishnu temple. Because of heavy snowfall the temple opens from May to October every year. A very large number of religious tourists throng to this place. For some it is an annual event which they look forward to.

**Varanasi, earlier known as Banaras or Kashi** is the most sacred among the holy places. It is the city of Shiva, having over two thousand temples and over half a million idols, most of them dedicated to Shiva and his family. It is situated on the banks of the holy river, the Ganga. French traveller, Francois Bernier (1656-1668 AD) in addition to the religious significance, explains the educational importance of Banaras. There were many *Gurukuls* in Banaras. In his words, “The town of Banaras, seated on the Ganges, in a beautiful situation, and in the midst of an extremely fine and rich country, may be considered the general school of the Gentiles (Hindus). It is the Athens of India. The town contains no colleges or regular classes, as in our universities (European universities), but



Figure 9.2 Temple at Kashi

resembles rather the schools of the ancients; the masters being dispersed over different parts of the town in private houses, and principally in the gardens of the suburbs, which the rich merchants permit them to occupy. Some of these masters have four disciples, others six or seven, and this is the largest number. It is usual for the pupils to remain ten or twelve years under their respective preceptors.” It is hoped that this information will make you read and gather more information on these religious places.

**Gaya** is the place where it is believed that if rituals are performed here the soul of the dead is supposed to attain salvation. Gaya is visited by many Hindus who wish that their ancestors may attain Moksha.

**Haridwar:** It is situated at the foothills of the Himalayas in Uttarakhand and is the place where the Ganga enters the plains. It is also called the ‘Gateway of the Ganga’. Haridwar is one of the most important Hindu pilgrim places of India. Haridwar has a very rich religious and cultural heritage. In the Hindu scriptures, Haridwar is known by the name of Mayapur. It is also considered to be the entry point i.e. Hari ka dwar, to the abode of God.

**Ayodhya** is one of the major holy cities of the Hindus. It has a central role in the ancient Indian epic, the Ramayana, whose protagonist, Lord Rama is God, incarnated on Earth as the prince of Ayodhya.

The city also figures in several other traditions. As per Jain tradition it is recognized as the birthplace of the first and the fourth *tirthankaras*. Buddhist tradition mentions it as a city visited by the Buddha.

**Kanchipuram:** Kanchipuram in Tamil Nadu is one of the seven Indian cities which should be visited to reach final attainment. It has the Varadharaja Perumal Temple, Ekambareswarar Temple, Kamakshi Amman Temple and Kumara Kottam which are major Hindu temples. The city is a holy pilgrimage site for both Saivites and Vaishnavites. Of the 108 holy temples of the Hindu god Vishnu, 14 are located in Kanchipuram.

**Kedarnath**, in Uttarakhand, is the most remote of the Char Dham sites. It is located in the Himalayas near Chorabari Glacier on the head of river Mandakini. It hosts one of the holiest Hindu temples. The Kedarnath Temple is a popular destination for Hindu pilgrims from all over the world, being one of the four major sites in India’s Chota Char Dham pilgrimage. Kedarnath is named in honour of King Kedar, who ruled in the Satya Yuga. He had a daughter named Vrinda who was believed to be a partial incarnation of goddess Lakshmi.

**The Somnath Temple** is located in the Prabhas Kshetra on the western coast of Gujarat, India. It is one of the twelve Jyotirlinga shrines of Lord Shiva. It



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means “The Protector of moon god. The Somnath Temple is known as “the Shrine Eternal” and is considered a very sacred Hindu Pilgrimage site.

**Amarnath** cave is a famous hindu shrine located in Jammu and Kashmir. It is dedicated to Lord Shiva. The shrine forms an important part of Hinduism and is considered to be one of the holiest shrines of the Hindus. The cave is surrounded by snowy mountains. The cave itself is covered with snow most of the time of the year except for a short period in summer when it is open for pilgrims. An annual pilgrimage is made to the Amarnath cave by lakhs of Hindu devotees on challenging mountainous terrain to see an ice stalagmite (Shivling) formed inside the cave.

**Kamakhya** is an important goddess that evolved in the Himalayan hills. She is closely identified with Kali and Maha Tripura Sundari. Her name means “renowned goddess of desire,”. She resides at presently rebuilt Kamakhya Temple and is worshiped in the form of a stone yoni (female generative organ) symbolic of the goddess. The temple is primary amongst the 51 Shakti Peethas related to the myth of Sati. It is one of the most important Shakti temples and Hindu pilgrimage site in the world.

**Mount Kailash** is a sacred pilgrimage place of Asia and lies in the South-West of Tibetan region of China-Nagri, towering 6714 meters above the Tibetan Plateau. According to the Hindu mythology, it is said to be the home of Lord Shiva



Figure 9.3 Mount Kialash

**Mathura** is located on the highway between Delhi and Agra, on the river Yamuna. It is the birth place of Lord Krishna, a beloved god of the Hindus. Many beautiful stories are related to him including protecting the people in times

of calamity. His dance with *gopis* or the female milkherds are to be taken as of the sacred dance between the deity and the worshippers. Eager pilgrims visit places around Mathura and nearby Brindavan. Two of the most important festivals of the Hindus i.e. Holi and Janamashtami are the times when Mathura and Brindavan are flooded by tourists both Indian and foreign. Travellers and tourists visiting Mathura should also know that they will find temple courtyards full of pious hymn singing of worshippers who often include women. At some famous temples like that of Banke Bihari temple, pilgrims sometimes dance with the joy of feeling the presence of their Lord.

It is known as Brajbhoomi - the land where Lord Krishna was born and spent his youth. It is also famous for the celebration of the festival of Holi.

**Nashik** is one of the important pilgrimage centers of India. According to mythology Rama, the king of Ayodhya, made Nashik his temporary residence during the 14 years of his exile.

**Prayag**, where the rivers' Ganga and Yamuna meet, is one of the ancient pilgrimage centers of India. Prayag is situated in Allahabad (the city of Allah). Prayag is venerated in the hymns of the Rig Veda. The famous Kumbh mela is also held here in which lakhs of devotees take a dip in the holy Ganga.



Figure 9.4 Holy Ganga

**Jagannath Puri** a large number of foreign tourists come to witness the event when thousands of devotees help to pull the carts on its divine journey. Puri is among the four sacred “Dhams” (Puri, Dwarka, Rameswaram and Badrinath) of the Hindus.

**Rameshwaram** is situated at the tip of the Indian peninsula. It is considered a sacred place for the Hindus. As per legend Lord Ram built a bridge over the sea to Sri Lanka when he went in search for his wife, Sita.



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Figure 9.5 Temple of Rameshwaram

**Ujjain** is situated on the eastern bank of River Shipra. It is one of the oldest cities of India. It is located in the Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh. In ancient times, Ujjain was known by the names of Ujjayini and Avanti.



Figure 9.6 Temple at Ujjain

**Pushkar:** Located in Rajasthan, Pushkar pilgrimage site is one of the holiest destinations. This small town has around 500 temples and is considered to be the most sacred by the Hindus. The only temple dedicated to Lord Brahma is situated at Pushkar.



**Figure 9.7 Pushkar**

**Tirupati Balaji Temple:** Located in a small district called Chittoor in southern Andhra Pradesh, is the famous Tirupati Balaji Temple of India. This temple is believed to be the richest temple in India because of the rich offerings made by the devotees.

**Vaishno Devi Temple:** Located in the mighty Trikuta Mountains at a distance of 60 kilometers from Jammu, is the famous Vaishno Devi Temple. It is one of the most visited and worshipped pilgrimages in India.



**Figure 9.8 Vaishno Devi**



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### INTEXT QUESTIONS 9.1

- (i) Describe the significance of Banaras for Hindus.
- (ii) Describe the sacred value of Mathura.
- (iii) Describe the religious heritage values of Dwarka, Puri and Somnath.



### ACTIVITY 9.1

Collect pictures of Hindu deities and heritage sites and paste them in your scrap book.

## 9.2 JAINISM

**Vardhaman Mahavira** has been accepted as the founder of Jainism. He was the 24<sup>th</sup> and the last *Thirthankara* (teacher) of the jains. He was born at *Vaishali*, the capital of the Vajji tribe. His father *Siddhartha* was the chief of a clan of Kshatriyas.

At the age of thirty, Vardhaman left his house in search of truth. He gave up the life of ease and pleasure and became an ascetic. He undertook penance and meditation for twelve years before the truth was revealed to him. This enlightenment made him a conqueror or a *Jina*. Therefore, his followers are called Jains and his philosophy, Jainism.

### 9.2.1 Mahavira's Teachings

- Mahavira did not believe in the existence of God and had no faith in yagna, sacrifices and rituals.
- He had no faith in the caste system and preached the equality of all human beings.
- He told his followers to take four vows: (i) *not to injure life*, (ii) *not to tell lies*, (iii) *not to own property*, (iv) *not to steal*.
- Mahavira also asked people to follow the *threefold* path of *Right Belief*, *Right Knowledge* and *Right Conduct*. According to him, this was the path to reach the highest goal of *Siddha Sila* and *Moksha*, i.e., freedom from the cycle of birth and rebirth. One of the most important principles of Mahavira's teachings was Ahimsa or *non-violence*. If you talk to your Jain friends, they will tell you that they do not eat or even touch meat. Some of them even tie a piece of cloth on their mouth so that no germs enter their

mouth and should not be killed. Since Mahavira preached in the language of the common people, i.e., *Ardha Magadhi or Prakrit*, he was well understood. His concept of equality was well received by the people. After his death Jainism was divided into two sects *Digambaras*, i.e., the sky clad who did not wear any clothes and the *Swetambaras* who wear white clothes. Several kings adopted Jainism as their state religion especially the rulers of Magadha i.e. Bimbisara and Ajatsatru. Jain art, architecture and literature were patronised by these rulers. The *Dilwara Temple* at Mount Abu is one of the most beautiful of Jaina temples. Mahavira spent his entire life preaching his philosophy in Anga, Mithila, Magadha and Kosala. He died at a place called Pawapuri near Rajagriha, at the age of 72, in 527 B.C.



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### 9.2.2 Jain Religious Heritage Sites in India

There are many places in India, which are of special importance to Jains because of associations with holy persons of the past. Some of these are places where the enlightened ones left this world and achieved final liberation, some are places where celebrated religious events have occurred, or others a famous temples which are often a group of temples or images which draw the pilgrims. In addition to the Jains, tourists from different parts of the world are also attracted to visit these religious heritage monuments. Some of the important Jain religious heritage sites are as follows:

**Mount Parsvanatha, Bihar** one of the greatest places of Jain Heritage of unequalled sanctity is Mount Parsvanatha or Sametsikhara in Bihar. It is believed that here no fewer than twenty of the twenty-four Tirthankara left their last earthly bodies and achieved moksha. The mountain rises handsomely from forested lower slopes to its rugged peak and the summit is covered with temples. Large numbers of pilgrims come to this place and after visiting every shrine conclude their pilgrimage by walking the thirty-mile circuit of the base of the hill.

Pawapuri, Bihar is a place of great scenic beauty particularly when the lotus flowers are in bloom on the large lake. The lake was formed over many centuries by countless pilgrims taking up a pinch of dust to mark their foreheads. A temple stands at the place where Mahavira is reputed to have achieved moksa and another at the site where his body was cremated. Latter on, an island in the lake connected by a causeway with the shore and the gleaming structure reflected in the lotus-strewn waters, is a splendid sight. The festival of Diwali, the annual remembrance of Mahavira's nirvana, is celebrated here with great fervour.

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**Jaisalmer** in Rajasthan is the place which attracts many scholars to its famous library of Jain manuscripts as well as many thousands of religious books. Not only scholars but also many other Jains make the pilgrimage to the splendid intricately carved temples of yellow stone.

The magnificent temple complex Ranakpur, Rajasthan dates from the fifteenth century A.D. It covers 40,000 square feet on a lofty base surrounded as is common with Jain temples by a high wall. The main sanctuary has four six-foot white marble statues of Rsabha, the first Tirthankara, facing the four directions, so the complex plan of the temple provides four approaches. Innumerable pillars which are said to be 1444 in number are richly carved and provide unending view through the twenty-nine halls interrupted by open courts.

**Dilwara Temples on Mount Abu, Rajasthan** are undoubtedly the masterpieces of Jain architecture and almost unequalled in India for beauty and delicacy of carving. The masons scraped away the marble rather than chiseled it and are said to have been paid according to the weight of marble dust removed. There are two major temple complexes. One was built around 1030 A.D. by Vimala Shah, a wealthy merchant, and dedicated to the first Tirthankara, it was restored in 1322 A.D. The forty-eight pillars of the main hall are probably unequalled anywhere for their decoration; the dome of eleven rings, alternate ones of which are decorated with human and animal figures, is impressive. The later temple, dedicated to the Tirthankara Neminatha is larger i.e. 155 feet long. It was founded around 1230 A.D. by Tejapala who, with his brother Vastupala, prime minister to the regent of Gujarat, was responsible for more than fifty religious edifices including foundations at Satrunjaya and Girnar. Each temple complex stands in a rectangular walled area decorated with statues in niches around the circumference. Not only the temples but also the splendid panoramic view from 4000 feet above sea level makes this site a remarkable showpiece as well as a place of Jain heritage site of deep religious significance attracting innumerable tourists to Mount Abu.

**Girnar** in Gujarat is so rich in temples and shrines that it has been described as a temple city. It is celebrated as the place where the Tirthankara Neminatha achieved *moksha*. One famous temple at the top of Mount Girnar is over a thousand years old. An inscription found there recording that it was repaired in 1278 A.D. The temple is in a rectangular courtyard surrounded by some seventy Tirthankara images. This is the largest temple but there are many others, including one founded by Vastupala in 1231 A.D. and dedicated to the nineteenth Tirthankara, Mallinatha.

**Satrunjaya, Gujarat** Satrunjaya is an ancient Jain place of pilgrimage of Heritage value as it was here that the first Tirthankara, Risabha as well as his chief follower is said to have achieved *moksha*. Hundreds of temples and smaller shrines are contained within the nine walled enclosures. A new temple of Risabha replaced the old one in the mid-twelfth century and seven shrines were placed in front of it in 1231 A.D. by Vastupala. Some of the temples can trace their origins, if not their present form, back to the tenth century. From the late seventeenth century Satrunjaya became more and more important. It became a very major and popular tourist place. People visit this place in larger number. Guide books have been written for them marking the routes by which the pious pilgrim may visit and pray before the many images. On a certain date every year pilgrims to the number of nearly 20,000 undertake a twelve-mile round trip: the hardships are great but the bliss experienced makes it worthwhile.

**Sravana Belgola** is sixty-two miles from Mysore. Here on a hill 470 feet high and reached by nearly five hundred steps stands the massive statue of Bahubali which is fifty-seven feet high and twenty-six feet across the shoulders. It was carved out from solid rock around the year 980 A.D. It is the biggest free-standing monolithic statue in the world. In a Jain temple the consecrated image is ritually bathed every day as part of the worship paid to it. The statue at Sravana Belgola is so huge that this ritual can be carried out only on the feet of the image. At certain intervals however between twelve and fifteen years a great structure of scaffolding is erected and the figure is ceremonially showered from pots of water mixed with sandalwood, coconut and sugar.

**Ranakpur Temple:** Ranakpur is a small village in Rajasthan. The temple of Ranakpur, which has some splendid carvings and architecture is proof of the profound piety and riches of the Jain faith. It is a famous Jain pilgrimage centre.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 9.2

1. Describe the main sects of Jainism.
2. Describe the significance of Jain heritage site of Parsvanatha in Bihar.
3. Why is the Jain temple at Mount Abu, Rajasthan famous?



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### ACTIVITY 9.2

Collect the pictures of other Jain Heritage sites of India and paste them in your note book and write a few lines about each of them. Also highlight these on the map of India.

### 9.3 BUDDHISM

**Gautama Buddha**, the founder of the religion, belonged to the *Shakya tribe*. His father was the chief of that tribe. Gautama was born near the Lumbini (garden) at Kapilavastu in 567 B.C.

His father did not want him to become a saint; he tried to give him all the luxuries and comforts that he had at his command.

It is believed that one day while he was out on a trip, he saw an old man, a sick man and a dead man. Till then the prince had only seen pleasures and happiness. He could not bear the sight of such human suffering. He decided to leave home in search of truth and salvation. So one night while his wife and child were sleeping, he quietly slipped out of the house to become an ascetic.

He talked to many learned persons but did not succeed in his search for truth. Then, he meditated for a long time under a *pipal* tree in Bodh Gaya. Finally, he understood the cause of suffering. He became *Buddha-the Enlightened one*. He gave his first sermon at the Deer Park at *Sarnath*, which is near Varanasi. There he also gathered his first five disciples. The Buddha attained *Mahaparinirvana* (great salvation) at Kushinagara at the age of 80. Gautama Buddha's religious philosophy is called Buddhism.

#### 9.3.1 Buddha's Teachings

Buddha taught that the cause of all human suffering is desire. It is important to control and overcome desire.

- This could be achieved by following the *Eightfold Path*, which means *Right Conduct, Right Speech, Right Action, Right Means of Livelihood, Right Effort, Right Mindfulness, Right Meditation, Right Resolution* and *Right View*. Buddha also preached in the language of the common people, i.e., *Pali* and *Prakrit* and laid stress on *a life of virtues and morals*.

Buddhism was an organized religion. There were *Sanghas* for the Buddhist monks. *Viharas* were made for the monks to live in. Education was given state patronage along with the Sangha as a result of which great universities like

Nalanda came up over a period of time. Buddhism spread into many countries of the world.

As a student of this subject or even if you wish to adopt tourism as a profession you should be familiar with these places so that you can guide the tourists or visitors to these places and the importance of these places. Hence we will discuss the Buddhist pilgrimage sites of India.



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### 9.3.2 Buddhist Heritages/Sites in India

**Sarnath:** Only a few miles away from Varanasi is Sarnath where Buddha preached his first sermon after attaining enlightenment. In Sarnath there are remains of great stupas. A pillar carried with an edict of King Asoka of the Maurya dynasty stands in front of the main shrine. Sarnath museum has a beautiful display of five sculptures. It provides history especially of the Maurya and the Gupta dynasties, Sarnath also has the Dhamekh Stupa which is believed to be the site where Buddha preached first sermon.

**Amravati Stupa:** It dates from the 2nd C. BC and many of the remains are on view in the Chennai museum. The Bharhut Stupa also dates from the 2nd C. BC and many of the remains are on view in the Kolkata Museum.

**Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh:** Main Toranas added by the Andhras (Satavahanas) in the 1st C. BC (or possibly later). Stylistically reminiscent of Amravati, Nagarjunakonda was once a flourishing Buddhist centre. Remains of this extensive Buddhist site dating from the 3<sup>rd</sup> CAD are housed in the site museum.

**Harwani:** The third Century Kushan site of Harwan (from Jammu and Kashmir) was once a thriving Buddhist centre. Surviving tiles from the Stupa display a variety of sculptural and decorative motifs - both naturalistic and abstract. These include representations of human figures including dancers and musicians, warriors on horses and conversing couples. Birds, animals, flower pots, vines and creepers are also depicted. Sanchi is famous in the world for stupas, monolithic Asokan pillar, temples, monasteries and sculptural wealth. It was Emperor Asoka who laid the foundation of a religious centre at Sanchi fascinated probably by the location of the hill. He erected the Great Stupa here after redistribution of mortal remains of Lord Buddha for erecting several stupas all over the country in order to spread Buddhism. This stupa was originally a low structure of brick, half the diameter of the present edifice hemispherical in shape with raised terraces at the base. It was enclosed by a wooden railing and a stone umbrella at the top. This Great Stupa served as a nucleus to the large Buddhist establishment during the later period.

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### Culture and Heritage in India–I: Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism

**Ajanta, Aurangabad, Maharashtra:** The original Buddhist caves date from the Second and First Century BC. The caves have paintings and sculptural additions made during the time of the Guptas. The Ajanta Caves (75°40' E; 20°30' N) are situated at a distance of 107 km north of Aurangabad. The caves got the name from a nearby village named Ajanta located about 12 kms. These caves were discovered by an Army Officer in the Madras Regiment of the British Army in 1819 during one of his hunting expeditions. Instantly the discovery became very famous and Ajanta became a very important tourist destination in the world. The caves, famous for its murals, are the finest surviving examples of Indian art, particularly painting.



Figure 9.9 Ajanta Caves

### 9.3.3 Rock-cut Carvings, Bhagalpur Region

These fine Gupta period (5th-7th C AD) carvings from the Bhagalpur and Sultanganj region of Bihar depict Buddha.

**Nalanda, Bihar:** Nalanda gained prominence as an important centre of Buddhist learning from 4th to 12th C. AD. Nalanda is famous as the ancient seat of learning. The ruins of the world's most ancient university lie here which is 62 kms from Bodhgaya and 90 kms south of Patna. Though the Buddha visited Nalanda several times during his lifetime, this famous center of Buddhist learning shot to fame much later, during 5th-12th centuries. Chinese traveller, Hieun Tsang stayed here in the 7th century AD and left detailed description of the excellence of education system and purity of monastic life practised here. He also gave a vivid account of both the ambience and architecture of this unique

university of ancient times. 2,000 teachers and 10,000 monk students from all over the Buddhist world lived and studied in this first residential international university of the world.

**Udaygiri** in Ratnagiri is a Buddhist site not too far from Cuttack (Odisha) and dates from the 6th C. AD. In the 8th C. it became an important center of the Vajrayana school of Buddhist art and philosophy. At Sirpur and Chattisgarh you can see ruins of an 8th C. Buddhist monastery.

**Bodh Gaya** is one of the four most sacred pilgrimage places for the Buddhists. Followers of Buddhism from all across the world consider it pious to visit Bodh Gaya.

The founder of Buddhism, Gautama Buddha, attained enlightenment under the sacred Bodhi tree at Bodh Gaya. The Mahabodhi Temple at Bodh Gaya in Bihar was originally built in the 2nd C. AD during the Kushan period but extensively refurbished by the Pala and Sena rulers between the 8th century and 12th century. Additional restoration work was carried out by Myanmar Buddhists in 1882 A.D.

**Rajgir** was the ancient capital city of the kings of Magadha. The name Rajgir literally means “House of the King”. It is a very important Buddhist site because Lord Buddha spent 12 years at Rajgir.

**Monasteries and Vihars:** At McLeod Ganj in Himachal Pradesh lies Dalai Lama’s temple called Tshglagkhang. Here you can find three magnificent images including an enormous three meter high gilt statue of Shakyamuni i.e. Buddha. To the left facing Tibet are the statues of Avalokiteshwara and that of Padmasambhava or guru Rinpoche, the Indian scholar who introduced Buddhism and Tantric teachings to the people of Tibet in the eighth century. Ki Gompa is the largest and oldest Gompa in spiti. It is famous for its priceless collection of ancient Thangkas and frescoes. You will also find many gompas on the trade routes extending from Kashmir valley to western Tibet, that is Lamaguru spituk, phayang, Thiksay, Hemis etc. These are located along the Tibet and its tributaries and are usually situated on steep slopes of hills. It is believed that the gompas played a very important role in the life of the Ladakhis. Though every festival in Leh has a religious background and all of them attract people from all castes and creeds who take part in them freely.

There are noteworthy monasteries and Viharas in the Buddhist region of Himachal Pradesh in the Kinnaru, Lahaul and Spiti areas bordering Tibet. A very famous monastery in this region which will be of great interest to the tourists in the Tabo monastery built by the Tibetan scholar and religious leader Rin Chan Sang Po on the banks of river Spiti. This monastery is more than one thousand



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### Culture and Heritage in India-I: Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism

years old and has a very religious and spiritual atmosphere surrounding it. It celebrated its thousand years in June 1996. Another important visiting site for the tourists is the Bhimakali temple in Sarahavi village. But the oldest religious place is the Vias Gufa which has an underground passage to the Markanday temple whose saint Markandey stayed in penance.

The Rumtek Monastery west of Gangtok in Sikkim has fierce deities guarding heavenly and earthly spheres. The monastery was built in the 1960's as a replica of a Tibetan Monastery destroyed by the Chinese.

Similarly one can hear Copper trumpets sounds at Yiga-Choeling Buddhist Monastery in Ghoom, a few miles outside Darjeeling. Founded a century ago, the monastery houses a huge gilded image of Maitriya i.e. a future Buddha, reflecting the faith of the people of this region.

**Vaishali:** A small village in the state of Bihar, Vaishali is a very famous Buddhist pilgrimage in India. The name "Vaishali" means prosperity and the place seems to live upto its name.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 9.3

1. Describe the four noble truths of Buddhist philosophy.
2. According to Buddhism, how can a person attain Nirwana?



### ACTIVITY 9.3

- On the map of India mark popular Buddhist Heritage sites and write a few lines about each.
- Try to find the name of a District, Tourist circuit and Tourist Train having their names associated with Buddhism.



### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- There are three important and well-known religions that originated in India in the ancient times. These are Hinduism (Brahmanism), Jainism and Buddhism.
- Later on the brahmans made the Vedic religion or Brahmanism very complex and complicated. They introduced many rites and rituals for their own material gains.

- This led to the rise of new religions like Jainism and Buddhism as a reaction. Vardhaman Mahavira is accepted as the founder of Jainism.
- Jainism teaches the people to take four vows. These are: (i) not to injure life, (ii) not to tell lies, (iii) not to own property, (iv) not to steal.
- Mahavira preached the threefold path. This was right belief, knowledge and aspects of true conduct. Siddha Sila is the highest goal according to Jainism.
- Gautama Buddha was the founder of Buddhism. According to Buddha, desire is the cause of all suffering.
- He preached the eightfold path, which meant right conduct, speech, action, means of livelihood, effort, mindfulness, meditation, resolution and view.
- Buddha is accepted as one of the ten avatars of God along with Rama and Krishna. You will be familiar with the most popular religion tourist sites of Hindus, Jains and Buddhas.



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### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Point out the striking difference between Jainism and Buddhism.
2. Explain the significant values of Hindu culture.
3. Discuss any ten Hindu religious heritage sites in India.
4. Discuss the various teachings of Jainism.
5. Throw light on the major Jain heritage sites of India.
6. Discuss the main characteristics of Buddhist culture.
7. List any ten most popular Buddhist heritage sites in India.



### ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 9.1

1. It is the place where Hindus like to die to attain moksha (Salvation). It is also known for temple of Lord Vishwanath (Shiva) as well as the centre of education.
2. It is the birth place of Lord Krishna.
3. These are mathas established by Aadi Shankaracharya.

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### Notes

## Culture and Heritage in India-I: Hinduism, Jainism and Buddhism

### 9.2

1. There are two sects in Jainism (1) Digambara (2) Svetambara.
2. Ranakpur has the famous marble statue of Risabh Dev and at Girnar, another Tirthankar called Neminath.
3. Mount Abu, Rajasthan is famous for Dilwara Jain Temples which are masterpieces of Jain architecture.

### 9.3

1. Right belief, right conduct, right speech and right knowledge.
2. By following Eight Fold Paths one reaches the highest goal of *Moksha*.



10

## **CULTURE AND HERITAGE IN INDIA–II: SIKHISM, ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY**

In India there is a great diversity in religions: Hinduism, Islam, Sikhism, Jainism, Buddhism, and Christianity. People follow their religion, culture and worship their gods in their own ways.

This wealth of religion and spirituality can be seen and felt throughout the country. Thus, there is so much of travelling connected with religion. This is because people in India are engaged in interaction with the divine for the betterment in this life as well as in the next.

Hence it is not surprising to find innumerable temples, gurudwaras, churches, mosques, shrines etc. which are visited by the people on important occasions. This is because religion has a universal and natural appeal for human being and they remain specially attached to their religion. In this lesson, we shall try and make you aware about how religious places are used as pilgrim destinations in the tourism industry.



### **OBJECTIVES**

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- explain the Sikhism and its basic teachings;
- list the major Sikh pilgrimage centres;
- discuss about Islam and its basic teachings;
- list the major Muslim religious tourist destinations e.g. Sufi dargahs;
- describe Christianity and its basic teachings and
- list the major Christian Churches as tourist attractions.

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### 10.1 SIKH RELIGION AND ITS BASIC TEACHINGS

Guru Nanak, founder of the Sikh faith, was born in Talwandi, near Lahore in Pakistan in 1469. He was one of the greatest saints of the Bhakti movement. The word ‘Sikh’ is derived from the Sanskrit word Shishya, meaning a disciple.

Sikhs are disciples of their ten gurus. Guru Nanak (1469–1539) was the first Guru and Guru Gobind Singh (1666–1708), the last. Guru Nanak received his early education in Sanskrit and Persian.

In 1496, he had an extraordinary spiritual experience (enlightenment), after which he travelled extensively to spread the message of love and brotherhood. He was accompanied by a Muslim musician Mardanaji and a Hindu peasant Bhai Bala. The three went from one village to another for preaching. Guru Nanak preached through *kirtans*, *bhajans* and *ragas* and people flocked to listen to him. He spent the last years of his life with his family in the village of Kartarpur. His hymns and songs were compiled in a book called the *Adi Granth*. He established *sangats* (people sitting together to listen to the Guru) and *pangats* (people eating together in *langar* or free kitchen).



#### Do you know

Nankana Sahib is the popular name for the birth place of Guru Nanak. It was renamed Nankana after the Guru. There are several shrines dedicated to the memory of Guru Nanak’s childhood and early youth here. A few days before his death, he called a congregation of his followers and chose his disciple Angad as successor. Guru Angad compiled the *Adi Granth*. The other gurus in order were Guru Amardas, Guru Ramdas, Guru Arjan Dev, Guru Hargobind, Guru Har Rai, Guru Harkishan, Guru Teg Bahadur and Guru Gobind Singh. The last Guru organized the Sikhs into a disciplined, military order of Sikh-saints called *Khalsa* (the pure). He established the five symbols of Sikhism: *kangha* (comb), *kesh* (long hair), *kada* (iron bracelet), *kachcha* (underwear) and *kirpan* (sword or dagger).

Teachings of Guru Nanak

- There is one God
- God is formless, Hari and Govind
- Caste system and idolatry should be rejected.
- Superstitions should be condemned

- The virtues of humility, charity, forgiveness and truthfulness should be inculcate.



**Do you know**

Gurdwara Damdama Sahib, the ‘Seat of Temporal Authority’, is indeed one of the revered ‘*takhts*’ of the Sikhs. This was the place where Guru Gobind Singh, the tenth guru of the Sikhs, took repose from the raging political upheaval and spent time in serenity adding valuable verses to Sri Guru Granth Sahib.



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## 10.2 THE MOST SACRED SIKH SHRINES AND HERITAGES

### 10.2.1 Takhts

The worship places of Sikhs are known as the Takhts which literally means ‘the seat of the divine power’ and Gurudwara stands for ‘the doorway to the master’ in India, there are several Gurudwaras but only five Takhts. Some of the most prominent Gurudwaras and Takhts include the Golden Temple, Gurudwara Rakab Ganj and Sri Akal Takht, Sri Patna Sahib, Sri Hazur Sahib, etc. The disciples of Sikhism come to the sacred places to take the blessings of Guru Granth Sahib, the holy book and eternal Guru of Sikhs.

It is said that ‘Takhts’ are places where various social and political settlements were done by the Gurus. The five ‘Takhts’ include

- (i) Sri Akal Takht founded by Guru Hargobind Singh
- (ii) Takht Sri Keshgarh Sahib where Khalsa panth originated
- (iii) Takht Sri Damdama Sahib where the complete version of Guru Granth Sahib was written by Guru Gobind Singh
- (iv) Takht Sri Hazur Sahib, where Guru Gobind Singh his last breathed
- (v) Takht Sri Patna Sahib is situated on the banks of the River Ganga

Takht Sachkhand Shri Hazur Abchalnagar Sahib, one of the five takhts of Sikhs, is located on the bank of River Godavari in the ‘Sanctified City’ of Nanded in Maharashtra.

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### 10.2.2 Gurudwaras

Apart from the Takhts, there are various Gurudwaras also in India which are historically related to Sikh pilgrimage. Thus these are significant from pilgrimage point of view. Lakhs of people a particularly the Sikhs visit the Gurudwaras to commemorate the Gurus. Among the most popular edifices, the Golden Temple in Amritsar, Punjab and the Bangla Sahib in Delhi are the two most prominent ones. It is called the Golden Temple owing to the gilded dome that adorns the crown of the Gurudwara. The Bangla Sahib Gurudwara in Delhi is also amongst the most impressive and fascinating edifices in India and is intricately linked with the history of Sikhism. Over here we shall read about some other Sikh shrines in India about which you should know. It will increase your knowledge.

**Gurudwara Paonta Sahib** dedicated to Guru Gobind Singh Ji, is located in Paonta Sahib City in Sirmour, Himachal Pradesh. This revered site draws devotees in huge flocks. The name ‘Paonta’ meaning ‘feet’ best justifies the importance of this place.

**Gurudwara Rakab Ganj Sahib**, one of the most revered Sikh shrines, stands as a homage to the ninth guru of the Sikhs, Guru Tegh Bahadur.

**Gurudwara Sis Ganj Sahib** was built at the site in the Chandni Chowk area of Old Delhi. Here the martyrdom of the ninth Sikh Guru Tegh Bahadur took place on Wednesday, November 24, 1675 on the orders of the Mughal emperor Aurangzeb. In the memory of this martyrdom Gurudwara was built and is known by the name Sis Ganj Sahib.

**Hemkund Sahib** is one of the most important Sikh shrines in the world. This majestic shrine is situated at an altitude of 15,200 feet above the sea level and so is accessible on foot from Gobind ghat in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand, India. It is a major religious tourist site in Uttarakhand where people brave the high and lofty Himalayas to reach this highly inaccessible place.

**Patna Saheb Gurudwara** is dedicated to the 10th Sikh Guru, Govind Singh. It is situated on the river Ganga and during the Holi festival in March the Gurudwara overflows with pilgrims who come in large numbers to visit this place.

**The golden temple at Amritsar** is the most sacred for the Sikhs. The town was founded by Guru Ram Das, the fourth Sikhsguru in 1577 on the land gifted by Akbar. The fifth Guru Arjun Dev completed the temple. When Maharaja Ranjit Singh covered the upper half of the temple first with copper and then with pure gold leaf it came to be known as the Swarna Mandir.



**Figure 10.1: The golden temple at Amritsar**

Anandpur Sahib is another Gurudwara of importance. Sikhs from all parts of the country visit this Gurudwara. Holla Mohalla fair is held here every year during Holi. Other important gurudwaras are Kiratpur sahib, Dera Baba Nanak, Patna Sahib, Darbar Sahib at Taran Taran etc.



### **INTEXT QUESTIONS 10.1**

1. Name the ten Sikhs Gurus.
2. How is Guru Granth Sahib associated with Sikhism?
3. What are Takhts?
4. Describe the "5K's that Sikh men are required to possess.
5. Describe the concept of langar.



### **ACTIVITY 10.1**

On the map of India identify Sikh Heritage sites.

Visit any Gurudwara and observe religious activities of the Sikhs.

## **10.3 ISLAM AND ITS BASIC TEACHING**

Islam is a monotheistic religion. The literal meaning of Islam is 'Peace and Submission'. Islam as a religion was established by Hazrat Mohammad in Mecca in 570 CE.



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### Culture and Heritage in India–II: Sikhism, Islam and Christianity

In 610 AD, at the age of forty Mohammad got Prophet hood (Prophet of God). When Prophet Mohammad living in an age where there was idol worship in Arabia all over the place. He tried to oppose the idol worship, he was persecuted by the people of Arabia. The conflict between Mohammad and his opponents on idol worshipping continued for 13 years. It is marked by his first divine revelation. Revelation means guidance by God for mankind. But circumstances forced him to migrate from Mecca to Medina in 622 AD. His migration is called *hijrat*. The hijri era begins after this incident. Prophet Mohammad died in 632 AD.

The Prophet was succeeded by four most prominent companions in the following successive order:

- Hazrat Abu Bakr
- Hazrat Umar
- Hazrat Usman
- Hazrat Ali

Muslims pray five times each day, always facing toward Mecca. A muezzin or person calls the people to pray in the mosque. An imam leads the people in prayer. Every person who is financially sound as prescribed in the Islamic law must give alms (money) to the poor. During the holy month of Ramadan, adult Muslims must fast (go without food or drink) between sunrise and sunset. Once during his lifetime, every Muslim is supposed to make a Hajj, or visit, to the holy city, Mecca. Muslims are not supposed to take intoxicants, eat pork, and gamble.

Islam was brought to India by the Arab merchants. They were followed by the Turks who established their Sultanate (State) in India. In 1526, the Mughals established their rule in India. Thus in brief this political establishment opened a new vista for the spread of Islam and Indo Islamic culture in the Indian subcontinent.

A significant aspect of Indo Islamic culture and heritage is the role of sufis in India. Sufis believed in universal peace and brotherhood. Their residences are known as *dargahs* and *khanqahs*. Different kind of travellers used to stay in their khanqahs. The khanqah people took care of their comfort and hospitality. Even today thousands of people visit these khanqahs particularly on the occasion of *Urs* (death anniversary) of the Sufi Sheikhs. This comprises an important part of domestic pilgrimage tourism.

**Dargah-Qutbuddin Bakhtiyar Kaki (Delhi)** is situated in the village Mehrauli in Delhi. It is crowded throughout the year with devotees of different religions. Some devotees tie a thread near the grave of the saint and untie it once their



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wish is fulfilled. The shrine of Qutbuddin Bakhtiar Kaki has also been the venue of the annual *Phoolwalon-ki-sair* (a festival of flower-sellers) in autumn, which has now become an important inter-faith festival and also a symbol of National movement against the British in Delhi. The festival has its origin in 1812, when Queen Mumtaz Mahal, wife of the Mughal Emperor, Akbar-II (1808-1837) made a vow to offer a chadar (sheet) and flower pankha at the Dargah and the Yogmaya Mandir, Mehrauli, if her son Mirza Jahangir, who had been exiled to Allahabad by the British, returned safely. It is believed that the people of Delhi irrespective of caste and community used to participate in the fair. Seeing the Hindu Muslim unity, the British Government banned the festival in 1942. But it was revived by Prime Minister late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru in 1961.

**Hazratbal (Kashmir)** is the most important religious monument for the religious as well as secular tourists, who wish to see the beautiful architecture of the building. It's situation on the bank of the Dal Lake in Srinagar enhances its beauty. It is the only bulbous domed mosque in Kashmir. For the Muslims it is significant because it has the sacred hair of Prophet Mohammed. The shrine is known by several names including Hazratbal, Asar-e Sharif, Madinat-Us Sani and Dargah Sharif. It is a very big tourist site of Kashmir.

**Charar i Sharif (Kashmir)** is the tomb of Shaikh Nuruddin Rishi (14th century), situated in Charar, 32 km from Srinagar. Rishi is a Sanskrit word meaning an ascetic. To suffix Rishi after Nuruddin suggests the syncretism of Hindu-Muslim culture. Nuruddin Rishi, along with Lalla or Lal Ded, a Shaivite saint were free from the bonds of narrow Hindu-Muslim traditions and customs and believed in planting trees to benefit the people. They considered this as their religion. These people became so popular among the masses that the heritage of Kashmir is depicted in the verses of Shaikh Nuruddin and Lal Ded as

We are the progeny of the same parents,  
Then why should we differ,  
Let Hindus and Muslims (together) adore God alone,  
We come to this world like partners,  
We ought to share our joys and sorrows together,

Shaikh Gesu Daraz was a Chishti saint who founded Khanqah at Gulbarga in Mysore in the early 13th century. Gesu Daraz is also known by the name of 'Khwaja Banda Nawaz'. The title 'Banda Nawaz' is similar to Shaikh Moinuddin Chishti's title 'Garib Nawaz'. His dargah is a famous place of pilgrimage and is styled in Indo-saracenic architecture. It has also paintings in Iranian and Turkish styles, on the walls and domes.

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### INTEXT QUESTIONS 10.2

1. How did Islam come to India?
2. What are the five pillars of Islam?
3. List major festivals of Muslims.



### ACTIVITY 10.2

Visit any Islamic Heritage site and based on your observations write a report on how prayers are conducted in the mosque.

## 10.4 DARGAHS-TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

A Dargah is a Sufi shrine built over the grave of a revered religious figure, often a Sufi saint or dervish. Muslims may visit a shrine as a form of pilgrimage known as *ziyarat*. *Dargahs* are often associated with Sufi meeting rooms and hostels, called *khanqah* or hospices. These may include a mosque, meeting rooms, Islamic religious schools (*madrassas*), residences for a teacher or caretaker.

The term *dargah* is derived from a Persian word which can mean, among other uses, “portal” or “threshold”. Some Sufis and other Muslims believe that *dargahs* are portals by which they can invoke the deceased saint’s intercession and blessing (*tasawwuf*). Still others hold a less supernatural view of *dargahs*, and simply visit it for a paying their respects to the pious individual or to pray at the site for perceived spiritual benefits.

Musical offerings to dervishes and sheikhs in the presence of the devout at these shrines, usually on the occasion of *Urs*, gave rise to musical genres like *Qawwali* and *Kafi*, wherein Sufi poetry is accompanied by music and sung as an offering to a *murshid*, a type of Sufi spiritual instructor.

This makes *Darghas* a natural choice as tourist attraction irrespective of religion and cultural differences.

People from all parts of the world irrespective of caste, creed and religion visit the *Dargah* and pray for the fulfillment of their wishes by the blessings of the Saint. India is a home of thousands of *Darghas*. In this lesson, *Darghas* of international repute have been described.

### 10.4.1 The Most Popular Darghas in India

**Pir Haji Ali Shah Bukhari, Mumbai:** Haji Ali Dargah is one of Mumbai’s most famous and prestigious landmarks situated in the middle of the Arabian Sea.



**Figure 10.2 : Dargah Pir Haji Ali Shah Bukhari**

The **Urs** (Death Anniversary) of Pir Haji Ali Shah Bukhari is on the 16th of Rabi-ul-aakhir / Rabi-al-thaany (17th Shab). As per its objectives all necessary rituals are performed as per Islamic traditions, and Niyaz (Food / Sweets) is distributed to all devotees, visitors and fakirs.

A special programme of Milad and prayers is held on the 16th of every Islamic Month after Namaaz-e-Isha (17th Shab) in remembrance of the Urs of Pir Haji Ali Shah Bukhari. The Trust distributes Niyaz to all present.

**The Dargah of Hazrat Sheikh Alauddin Ali Ahmed, is known as Sabir Dargah, Kaliyar Roorkee (Uttarakhand):** The Dargah of Hazrat Shaikh Alauddin Sabir Kaliyari is in Roorkee, in the Haridwar district. He was a Sufi revered by both Hindus and Muslims. The Dargah has been in existence for about 800 years where his Urs are celebrated by millions of people every year in Kaliyar.

**Khwaja Moin-ud-din Chisti’s Ajmer:** The Dargah Sharif is situated in the heart of the city of Ajmer and is easily accessible from all parts of the country. The best time to pay a visit to the Dargah is between the months of October to March when the weather is cool in Rajasthan. The annual Urs fair in the Dargah is the most celebrated occasion of the city that attracts thousands of pilgrims from all over the world. It is the occasion when the Dargah is decorated at its best and the whole environment turns festive.



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**Hazrat Nizamuddin Aulia Dargah at Delhi** has the annual Urs which is held every year to celebrate the memory of one whose mysticism was not mysterious. This is the reason why the common masses then and now call him the beloved of God. Other tombs include the grave of Jahanara, the daughter of Shan Jahan, Amir Khusrau, a renowned poet, Ziauddin Barani, a famous historian (14<sup>th</sup> century) and the tomb of the noble Inayat Khan, a favourite of Emperor Humayun and his son, Emperor Akbar.



Figure 10.3: Nizamuddin dargah

Nizamuddin dargah is the most visited destination during evening prayers held every day, especially on Thursdays. Music lovers gather here for *qawwalis* and festivals like Eid and the ‘Urs’ of Hazrat Nizamuddin.

**Dargah of Hazrat Syed Hameed Qadir Vali at Nagore in Tamil Nadu** is a world famous muslim plarimage centre.



Figure 10.4: Dargah of Hazrat Syed Hameed Qadir Vali

It is more than 500 years old and is topped by a golden dome and flanked by 5 minarets. A prominent five-acre dargah, a Muslim shrine dedicated to the 16th century saint Nagore Andavar serves as a pilgrim center. The 14-day Kandhuri Urs also spelled Kandoori or Kandhoori festival, dedicated to the saint, is held here annually.

### Popular Darghas in India

Here we have listed some popular Dargahs. You can also locate some other dargahs.

1. Qutbuddin Bakhtiar Kaki's Dargah
2. Tomb of Salim Chisti
3. Erwadi
4. Shaikh Chirag Delhi's Daragah
5. Karseri
6. Kattupalli
7. Kazimar Big Mosque
8. Madurai Maqbara
9. Manamadurai Maqbara
10. Meesal Kilavaneri
11. Meher Ali Shah
12. Melakkal Kanavai
13. Muthupet Dargah
14. Nagore Dargah
15. Pallichandai Silaiman
16. Peer Mohammed Dargah
17. Piran Kaliyar Sharif
18. Sundaramudayan
19. Thachuoorani
20. Thiruparankundram
21. Thiruvedagam
22. Vaippar
23. Valinokkam
24. Charar-e Shareef

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### 10.5 CHRISTIANITY AND ITS BASIC TEACHINGS

One of the great religions of the world is Christianity. It is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ. Jesus lived almost 2,000 years ago in the region of Palestine (now part of Jordan and Israel) on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea. He lived a life of poverty and humility. Traveling on foot and preaching to the people, Jesus taught that men should love God and one another. Many people began to believe his teachings, but others misunderstood him.

From his followers, Jesus had chosen twelve men to be his Apostles. According to them, Jesus appeared again, alive three days after his death. He then stayed on earth for 40 days before going to heaven. His Apostles set out to spread his teachings. The most famous of the Apostles were Saint Peter and Saint Paul, who founded many Christian churches. Their stories about the life of Jesus are written in the New Testament of the Bible. The early Christians were Jews but Christianity and Judaism separated in 381 A.D.

The disciples of Jesus travelled to different parts of the Greco-Roman world and established many Christian churches. It is believed that Saint Thomas, one of the disciples of Jesus travelled to India and reached Muziris (western coast). He established churches and his followers are known as Saint Thomas Christians in India.

The coming of the Portuguese in India during the 14<sup>th</sup> century opened a new vista in the history of Christianity. Consequently, they established churches on the western coast of India. It was at this time when Portuguese Christian mission under Francis Xavier (1506-52), a Jesuit priest was sent to India. He became successful in converting a large number of people into Christianity, on the western coast. Emperor Akbar gave freedom to Christian missions to establish their Church, propagate their religion and to celebrate their religious festivals.

#### 10.5.1 Christian Culture in India

The Christian place of worship is called a church. They are often built in the shape of a cross with the altar facing east towards the rising sun. The Christian spiritual leaders are called priests or ministers. The Christians believe priests have a special relationship with God. The Bible is the Christian holy book.

Christian Traditions and Ceremonies

“The Christian preachers emphasis that the essence of man’s soul is love, and the source of love is God.”

## 10.6 CHRISTIAN HERITAGE SITES IN INDIA

The total numbers of Christian Heritage sites in India are many but here you will read about some well known ones.

**St. Thomas Mount**, is about five kilometres southwest of Chennai where St. Thomas was buried. The mount is known after his name. Rising 100 meters above the surrounding plain it is a lone hill where Thomas is believed to have been killed. Built by the Portuguese in 1547 it replaced an ancient Nestorian church while the foundation was being laid for the church of Mylapore Cathedral. The stone cross, believed to have been carved by St Thomas and similar to those found in Kerala where his seven shrines were built, is now part of the ornate. Tradition has that the cross first publicly bled on August 18, 1558 during Mass and that it bled periodically ever after till 1704. It is a very important religious tourist site for the Christians.

**Basilica of Bom Jesus, Old Goa** is a very important and popular place for the tourists from India and abroad who visit Goa. It was built in 1605 and now declared a World Heritage Monument. The church houses the sacred relics of St. Francis Xavier, patron saint of Goa who died while on a sea voyage to China on December 2, 1552. The following year while transferring his remains to Goa in accordance with his wishes it was found that the saint's body was as fresh as on the day it was buried. This miraculous phenomenon continues to attract the devout of all lands and an exposition or public viewing of his body every ten years, attracts lakhs of pilgrims from across the World.

**St Cathedral, Goa** is another important and popular place for religious as well as secular tourists. Believers are awe-struck to hear of the cross of miracles which is placed in the cathedral. People have had a vision of Christ on this Cross and the rock on which it was found.

This beautiful whitewashed Church of St. Francis of Assisi, today houses part of the archaeological museum. Exhibits include prehistoric items from a distant tribal past. It is also known as the 'Pearl of the Orient' or 'Rome of the East' during its prime days. It was the concentration of magnificent churches, symbol of a powerful conquering presence which justified this last title. In fact, the Church of St. Cajatan, built by an Italian architect in 1651, was modeled in miniature on St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. Today a theological college is housed here.

**The Presbyterian Church at Ross Island, Andaman And Nicobar Islands** is a Protestant church built of stone and the window frames made of Burma



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teak. The glass panes behind the altar are made of beautifully etched stained glass from Italy. The quality of the wood is so good that it has survived the vagaries of weather for over a hundred years. A small structure south of the church was built to accommodate the parsonage.

**Thomas Church** is the first Catholic Indian church located in Kodungaloor, Kerala. This is one among the famous seven Churches built by St. Thomas and the most famous church in South India.

**San Thomas Basilica** is a 16th century church located in Santhome, Chennai. This Indian Church has beautiful stained glass depictions around it showing various stages of the life of St. Thomas in glory and splendour, and also contains a statue of Virgin Mary as its masterpiece. The Velankanni church is the most famous church in Tamilnadu. The Pope himself has described the church as a holy city. This is the most visited pilgrimage center for Christians across the world.

**The Holy Christ Church** among the most notable Churches of North India, the most popular is the Holy Christ Church. This yellow colored church is on the Ridge ground, Shimla. This is also a famous shooting spot for Bollywood films.

**St. John's Church** is the oldest cathedral church of North India. It is five kms away from the popular 'peace of mind spot' in McLeod Ganj. It was built around 1852. There is an absolute purity associated with this Church. It is completely surrounded by deodar trees and is in a natural atmosphere.

**St. James Church or Skinner's Church, Delhi** is one of the oldest Churches of Delhi, built by Colonel James Skinner in 1836 near Kashmiri Gate. James Skinner's father Hercules was in the Indian British army. He married a Rajput woman. Skinner was injured severely in a battle but survived. He is known to have vowed to build a Church. The basic design of the Church is related to Renaissance style with three porches, elaborate stained glass windows and a central octagonal dome.

**Sardhana Church** is situated 19 km. away from Meerut. It is famous because of the Church constructed by Begum Samru. Samru was a German, who served under the Nawab of Bengal Sirajuddaula and Najaf Khan of Rohilkhand. He married an Indian lady Zebunnisa popularly known as Begum Samru. She was converted to Roman Catholic faith. After his death, she commanded her husband's European mercenary force efficiently. Subsequently, she allied with the Britishers. The present Lala Lajpat Rai market in Chandni Chowk was her residence. She is also known to have constructed a beautiful church in Sardhana. Its architectural beauty and maintenance has earned recognition of heritage site

from UNESCO. Twice a year in March and November, thousands of religious tourists come to the Sardhana Church in reverence to Virgin Mary and Begum Samru.

**Kohhran Thianghlim, Aizawl, Mizoram** A group calling themselves “Kohhran Thianghlim” which literally means “The Holy Church” built a magnificent structure called “Solomon’s Temple” in Aizawl, the capital of the state of Mizoram, in North East India. It is believed that Dr L.B. Salio received a word from the Holy Spirit to construct this shrine exactly as he was told i.e. in the structural design, size, height, shape, number of doors and windows, etc. It covers an area of 32400 Sqft. It is designed to be safe from wind force, earthquake, etc. and appear like a Cross from the sky.



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### Other Christian Heritage Sites in India

An 1870 Anglican Cathedral with white and red stone exterior and marble altar at Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh) is another visual and spiritual feast. In Delhi, the Churches worth seeing include the Church of the Sacred Heart and the Cathedral Church of the Redemption. Mumbai’s first Anglican Church -Cathedral of St. Thomas is also an important site for religious tourists. Tourists visiting Himachal Pradesh will find important Churches worth visiting, like Christ Church and St Michael’s Cathedral, the Catholic Church of St. Francis, St. John’s Church-In-Wilderness and the Christ Church.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 10.3

1. How did Christianity come to India?
2. Name any two famous Churches in India.



### ACTIVITY 10.3

- Visit any Christian Heritage site and observe the significant Heritage value of that church and make a report on it.
- On the map of India identify the Christian Heritage sites.
- Meet any Christian family and discuss their culture and write a report on it.

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### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- Guru Nanak, founder of the Sikh faith, was born in Talwandi, near Lahore in Pakistan in 1469. He was one of the greatest saints of the Bhakti movement. The word ‘Sikh’ is derived from the Sanskrit word Shishya, meaning a disciple.
- The worship places of Sikhs are known as the Takhts which literally means ‘the seat of the divine power’ and Gurudwara stands for ‘the doorway to the master’ in India, there are several Gurudwaras but only five Takhts.
- Islam is a monotheistic religion. The literal meaning of Islam is ‘Peace and Submission’. Islam as a religion was established by Hazrat Mohammad in Mecca in 570 CE.
- A Dargah is a Sufi shrine built over the grave of a revered religious figure, often a Sufi saint or dervish.
- One of the great religions of the world is Christianity. It is based on the teachings of Jesus Christ.



### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Describe the teachings of Sikhism.
2. Give a brief account of Sikh Heritages.
3. Discuss the main features of Islamic Culture.
4. Describe the most popular Islamic Heritage sites available to Tourists in India.
5. Discuss the main features of the Christian Culture and Traditions in India.
6. Describe any five most popular and significant Christian Heritage sites in India.



### ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 10.1

1. Guru Nanak Dev, Guru Angad, Guru Ramdas, Guru Arjun Dev, Guru Hargobind, Guru Har Rai, Guru Harkishan, Guru Tegh Bahadur, Guru Gobind Singh.

2. Guru Grantha Sahib is the holy book of the Sikhs.
3. Takhts are placed where various social and political settlements were done by the Gurus.
4. Kangha, Kesha, Kara, Kachcha, Kirpan.
5. Langars are free kitchens.

### 10.2

1. Islam came to India through traders from the Arab peninsula.
2. (i) Five time prayers (ii) Zakat i.e giving alms to the poor (iii) Keeping fast in the month of Ramzan (iv) Pilgrimage to Mecca (v) Belief in one formless God i.e. Allah.
3. Eid-ul Fitr, Eid-ul Zuha, Moharram, Eid Milad un-nabi.

### 10.3

1. Through traders.
2. (i) Basilica of Born Jesus in old Goa.  
(ii) St. Thomas Mount at Chennai.

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# CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS OF INDIA

Attractions of Indian Culture refer to the way of life of the people. It can be their language, religion, dance, music, architecture, food, and customs. Since India is a large country with a huge population, the culture differs from place to place. India is also home to many religions and has many festivals to celebrate. In any given month of the year there is bound to be a religious festival. It might be Baisakhi, Holi, Eid, Mahavir Jayanti, Buddha Purnima, Guru Purab, Dussehra, Diwali, or Christmas. Festivals are an important part of the culture of our country. These festivals are characterized by colour, gaiety, enthusiasm, prayers and rituals. Foreign tourists are often struck by the scale and multiplicity of Indian Fairs and Festivals that have evolved in the society. Hence Cultural components form a major part of Tourist attractions in our country.

Foreign tourists visit India or when domestic tourists travel out of their city to another place, they must make it a point to be a part of these fairs and festivals that are being celebrated and held in that particular city or place. An interesting example would be the Dussehra festival which is celebrated in Mysore or in Kullu in Himachal Pradesh. If they are in Delhi then that ever so popular International Trade Fair held at Pragati Maidan from 14<sup>th</sup> November to 27<sup>th</sup> November is a place to be visited. Here you can witness the colours, heritage and products of the entire country displayed by all the states. Another important fair for them would be the Surajkund Crafts Mela held at Suraj Kund in Faridabad from 1<sup>st</sup> February to 15<sup>th</sup> February every year. Hence in this lesson we shall read about some fairs and festivals of India which should be visited by the tourist.



## OBJECTIVES

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- describe the different cultural aspects of India;

- list the well-known fairs/festivals in India along with the regions and months in which they are held;
- describe the important festivals in India;
- explain the significance of fairs and festivals as tourist attractions;
- describe the events which form an integral part of our culture and
- list some food items which are popular with tourists.

### 11.1 DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF CULTURE

India's languages, religions, dance, music, architecture, food, and customs differ from place to place within the country. Tourists want to know and have a glimpse of the cultural attributes of visiting destinations. Fairs and festivals are events or happenings through which we can see a very large part of our culture. We can list two major types of festivals in our country. Ones which are related to the important events in a country and are called national festivals, others are related to religion and also region. In both the events we can add other culture components which lend colour and gaiety to those events. These can be food, games, music and dance. In India people lose no opportunity to sing and dance or hold music and dance events where food is a very important component of these events.

Open fairs held in certain times of India lend gaiety and fervor which tourists love to visit.

**Fair** is a gathering of people to display or trade products or other goods, including animals for buying and selling. These fairs are often temporary in nature and may last only an afternoon or may be a fortnight.

**Festivals** are associated with a religious event and which centers on and celebrates certain religious events of that community. There can be very interesting events attached to these festivals. You will come across many stories also written on one such interesting story 'Idgah' was written by our very famous Hindi author Munshi Prem Chand. The author narrates the story of a young child who on the occasion of Id, gets some money to spend at the Idgah where a Cheemtah or tongs for his Nani. The Idgah assumes an important place in the life of the child. Similarly there are similar places where people gather to celebrate an event, e.g. the Kumbha Mela at Allahabad where because of the huge crowd that gathers children even tend to get lost or separated from their parents. These lost, separated or lost and found stories often become popular themes of stories in our Indian cinema also.



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Since India is home to many religions it is not surprising that we do not find a month in the year which does not celebrate any festival. If festivals are celebrated, can entertainment and enjoyment be far behind! Some festivals are also celebrated with Music and dance. Take for example the popular Dussehra festival of our country, every year, this festival is celebrated with the popular “Ram Leela” on the stage. It is watched by lakhs of people in Delhi. Many performances are held every year which are sponsored by big industrial houses. The Ram Leela has helped to popularize the famous epic the Ramayana among all those Indians who are interested in knowing about it. You will read about all these events and places in this lesson which tourists like to visit. It is also interesting to know why, what, where, how and when the festival is celebrated as it will help the tourist to understand it and the events associated with it.



### Do you know

- Religion is an organized collection of belief systems, cultural systems, and world views that relate humanity to spirituality and, sometimes, to moral values.
- A Tradition is a belief or behaviour passed down within a group or society with a symbolic meaning or special significance with origins in the past.

You will be surprised to learn that many of the festivals are subjects to the lunar calendar. Most of the days of the festivals are not determined by the pre-set dates of a lunar calendar, but according to the waxing and the waning of the moon. The Islamic festivals are celebrated according to the Muslim or Hijri calendar.

Makar Sankranti is the only festival which is based on the Sun festivals are always associated with some religious event, e.g., Diwali is associated with the return of Lord Rama to Ajodhya and many other events about which you will read in the section on Diwali.

Guru Purab is associated with the birth of Guru Nanak etc. and other sikh gurus. These festivals are filled with religious fervor, faith and are the time to not only worship their gods but also enjoyment, fun and frolic. Families and friends get together, celebrate them with new clothes, good food and make it a time to visit each other. This unit contains the various festivals of our country along with the months in which they take place.

## 11.2 LIST OF FAIRS AND FESTIVALS ALONG WITH MONTHS

### January

- Bikaner Festival in Rajasthan, Guru Gobind Singh's birthday
- Float Festival in Madurai Tamil Nadu, Kerala Village Fair Kovalam, Kerala, Lohri in Punjab and also places where the people from Punjab are staying.
- Makar Sankranti in Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bihar, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh and in the North
- Mamallapuram Dance Festival Mamallapuram, Tamil Nadu, Modhera Dance Festival Sun Temple Modhera Gujarat, Nagaur Cattle Fair, Rajasthan
- National Kite Festival, Ahmedabad Gujarat, Pattadakal Dance Festival Karnataka, Pongal, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh, the Republic Day celebrated all over the country.
- Basant Panchami/Saraswati Puja, North India and West Bengal Joydev Kenduli Mela

### February

- Khajuraho Dance Festival Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Deccan Festival Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh
- Desert Festival Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, Eid-Milad-ul-Nabi
- Elephant Festival, Mumbai, Goa Carnival, Goa, Mahashivratri
- Nishagandhi Dance Festival, Thiruvananthapuram Kerala, Rose Festival in Chandigarh
- Surajkund Crafts Mela, Haryana, Taj Mahotsav, Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Thai Pusam, Tamil Nadu
- Garden Festival, Delhi
- International Yoga Week, Rishikesh, Uttarakhand

### March

- Chapchar Kut, Mizoram
- Elephant Festival, Jaipur, Rajasthan
- Gudi Padwa or Ugadi, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh & Karnataka, Holi

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### Cultural Attractions of India

- Hoysala Mahotsava, Belur-Halebid, Karnataka, International Flower Festival, Sikkim
- Mewar Festival, Udaipur Rajasthan, Natyanjali Festival, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu, Ellora Festival Maharashtra

#### April

- Baisakhi, Punjab, Bihu, Assam
- Good Friday, Easter, Mahavir Jayanthi, Ramnavami
- Vishu, Kerala, Budh Purnima

#### May

- Ganga Dussehra, North India

#### June

- Hemis Festival, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Rath Yatra, Orissa
- Sindhu Darshan Festival, Leh, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir, Urs, Ajmer, Rajasthan

#### July

- Ashadi Ekadashi, Pandharpur International Mango Festival, Delhi, Champakkufam Boat Race, Kerala, Guru Purnima
- Nag Panchami, West Bengal, Maharashtra and South India

#### August

- Id-ul-Fitr, Independence Day, Janmashtami
- Nehru Trophy Boat Race, Kerala, Onam, Kerala
- Raksha Bandhan, North India, Teej, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh

#### September

- Ganesh Chaturthi, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tarnetar Mela, Saurashtra, Gujarat
- Pune Festival, Maharashtra

#### October

- Durga Puja, West Bengal Dussehra, Diwali
- Id-ul-Zuha (Bakr-Id)
- Marwar Festival, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, birthday of Mahatma Gandhi

## Cultural Attractions of India

- Navaratri
- Rajgir Dance Festival, Bihar

### November

- Hampi Festival Karnataka
- Ka Pomblang Nongkrem, Shillong, Meghalaya
- Lucknow Festival, Uttar Pradesh, Muharram, Pushkar Fair, Rajasthan
- Sonapur Mela, Bihar, Guru Purab, Punjab

### December

- Kartik Ekadashi
- Konark Dance Festival, Odisha
- Chennai Dance & Music Festival, Tamil Nadu, Christmas
- Kurushetra Festival, Haryana
- Island Tourism Festival - Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Poush Mela in Shantiniketan, Bengal
- Gangasagar Mela, Bengalsagar Mela, Bengal Vishnupur Mela

## 11.3 FESTIVALS IN INDIA

In India, the celebrations of fairs and festivals form a wondrous and joyful series of events. It marks the rites of passage between birth and death. There are said to be more festivals in India than there are days of the year. Small local village rituals of worship and propitiation are celebrated with as much fervor as other big festivals. These occasions can draw floods of people numbering half a million or more to any event. Sometimes Fairs and Festivals are moments of remembrance and commemoration of the birthdays and great deeds of gods, goddesses, and heroes, heroines, gurus, Prophets and saints. On these occasions, people gather together to celebrate. Each of India's many religious communities - Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains and others - have such days.

Major religio- cultural and national festivals of India are Makar Sankranti, Baisakhi, Diwali, Durga Puja, Dussehra, Onam, Holi, Janmashtami, Karwa Chauth, Maha Shivaratri, Naag Panchami, Ganesh Chaturthi, Navratri, Pongal, Raksha Bandhan, Guru Nanak Jayanti, Lohri, Eid ul Fitr, Muharram, Ram Navami, Christmas, Good Friday, Baisakhi, Mahavir Jayanti, Kumbh Mela, Children's day, Jamshed Navroz, Buddha Purnima, Hemis Gompa etc. and many more festivals about which you have already read.

The national festivals are Gandhi Jayanti, Independence Day and Republic Day. We shall now read a little more in detail about some of these festivals of India.

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Figure 11.1 Festivals of India as Tourist attractions

### Dussehra

Dussehra is amongst the most popular Indian festivals which falls in the Hindu month of Ashvin (around September or October). On this day, Rama (the god and the hero of the great Hindu epic the Ramayana vanquished the evil Ravana – the 10-headed demon-king of Lanka who had abducted Rama’s wife, Sita. This festival goes on for atleast ten days. There is great excitement and people go to visit Ramlilas which are held in many places. On the tenth day i.e. on Dussehra, effigies of the demon king Ravana, along with his brother Kumbhakaran and son Meghnad are burnt. People cheer Lord Rama’s victory over evil. Kullu Dussehra in Himachal Pradesh and Mysore Dussehra are famous and popular tourist attractions. Music, dance, puppet shows, joyrides, games, food stalls people buying and selling, the balloon wala and chaat wala all can be seen at such events.

### Durgapuja

The azure sky with fluffy white clouds and a nip in the air marks the advent of autumn and the time is there for the famous Durga Puja of Bengal. Because of commercialization and globalization many Bengalese have shifted to various parts of the countries hence you can come across many Durga Puja Pandals in major centres worship of the Goddess Durga. Actually the festival is celebrated twice a year– once in the month of March or April (Basant), and again in the month of September or October (Ashwin), during the moonlit fortnight. On both occasions, the puja is a nine-day affair with the last day coinciding with Rama Navmi and Dussehra respectively. One is associated with the birth of Rama and the second is associated with the killing of demons Ravana, Kumbhakaran and

Meghnad by Rama. The Mother goddess is venerated in one form or the other all over India, though she is the most popular among the Bengalis.

### Diwali

Deepawali or the Festival of Lights is perhaps the most popular of all Hindu festivals of India. It comes twenty days after Dussehra. It is a joyful celebration signifying the return of Rama from the forests after killing Ravana. People decorate their homes. Religious fervor paralleled with ample fun and merry-making marks this India festival. Deepawali is celebrated in most parts of the country with equal enthusiasm and fervor. Like most festivals, it attracts a lot of tourists who come to India to witness this beautiful festival.

### Holi

Holi, the liveliest of all Hindu festivals, is observed all over North India. It heralds the end of the winter and the beginning of the spring and marks the rekindling of the spirit of life. It is a festival of joy when all is forgiven. People throw colored powder and water at each other and make merry. Singing and dancing add to the gaiety of the occasion. Holi celebrations in Mathura and the small towns of Braj Bhoomi, the land of Sri Krishna, are spectacular. At this time of the year many tourists come here to witness the Holi celebration.

### Eid ul Fitr

Eid Ul Fitr is the biggest Muslim festival of India. The festival is significant as much for its timing as for its religious implications. It is celebrated after the month of Ramzan (the month of fasting and the ninth month of the Muslim year), on the first day of Shavval – a month in the Hijri year (Muslim year). It is believed that the Quran was revealed to Prophet Mohammed in the month of Ramzan. The entire month of Ramzan fasts is observed which is broken after sunset every day. Markets are flooded with many good things to eat, clothes and gifts. On the day of Eid people go to the mosque to say their prayers.

Other major festivals of Muslims are Eid-ul-Zuha and Milad-un- Nabi. Muhharam is a mourning occasion to recall martyrdom of Imam Hssan and Hussain, grandsons of Prophet.

### Baisakhi Festival

One of the most spirited festivals of India is Baisakhi, originated from the northern state of Punjab which is home to some of the most sturdy and fun-loving people in this country. It is the celebration of Baisakhi which marks the



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months of hard labour that go into the production of the rabi crop, the first harvest of the year.

### Mahavir Jayanti

The birthday of Lord Mahavira, the 24th tirthankar of the Jain sect is largely spent in prayer rather than in any ostentatious display of jubilation. In places with a sizeable Jain population, like Old Delhi and Gujarat, peaceful processions are organised where children put up skits depicting different phases of Mahavira's life. This day is considered to be auspicious enough to undertake new ventures or organise other social activities.

### Christmas

Christmas, the festival of Christians is associated with the birth of Jesus Christ. At Christmas which falls on 25 December every year, Christians go to the Church and sing carols and prayers. People send greetings to their friends and families in faraway places. People decorate their homes with Christmas trees and wreaths, bright red decorative bulbs, festoons, bells, other small ornaments, coins and gifts hung in socks.

Days before Christmas markets are packed with huge crowds. People buy new clothes, gifts and decoration materials (for their family).

In Kerala and Tamil Nadu, people hang beautiful star-shaped paper lamps of various colours and sizes outside their homes. The star lamps of Kerala have patterns or cutwork designs on them.

Nearly a week before Christmas, the church, club and school choirs start going to neighborhoods and are greeted by people with cakes and other eatables. Christmas carols are sung in various local languages all over the country. One famous Christmas carol which is sung with great love is silent night, Holy night, all is come, all is bright. Holy - Mother and child i.e. Jesus Christ and his mother. Needless to say that all religious festivals are holiday times. People travel to their homes to celebrate them with their families thus generating a lot of tourists' activities in the country.

### Gurpurb

Gurpurb are related to the lives of the Sikh gurus they are an important features of the Sikh way of life.

During these celebrations, the Guru Granth Sahib is read in private homes and in the gurdwaras. This is done in a single continuous ceremony lasting for

48 hours . This reciting of the Grantha Sahib called Akhan Path must be completed without interruption. In fact, the relay of reciters who take turns at saying the Scripture, ensures that no break occurs.

Special assemblies are held in gurdwaras and discourses are given on the lives and teachings of the gurus. You can see Sikhs march in processions through towns and cities chanting the holy hymns. Special Langars, or community meals are held for the participants. Partaking of a common meal on these occasions is considered an act of merit. Public functions are held. Gurdwaras and residential houses are illuminated with lights and diyas. Friends and families exchange greetings.

### 11.3.1 National Festivals of India

National festivals are celebrated to commemorate the occurrence of great historical events of national importance. Such festivals inculcate a strong feeling of patriotism in the minds of Indians. India celebrates three National Festivals about which you will read here.

**Independence Day:** (15th August 1947). Commemorating the day India attained freedom (15 August), Independence Day is celebrated with flag hoisting ceremonies and cultural programmes in the state capitals, district head quarters, cities and villages, especially in almost every school. The Prime Minister's speech at the Red Fort in Delhi is the major highlight. The Delhi skyline is dotted with thousands of kites on this day.

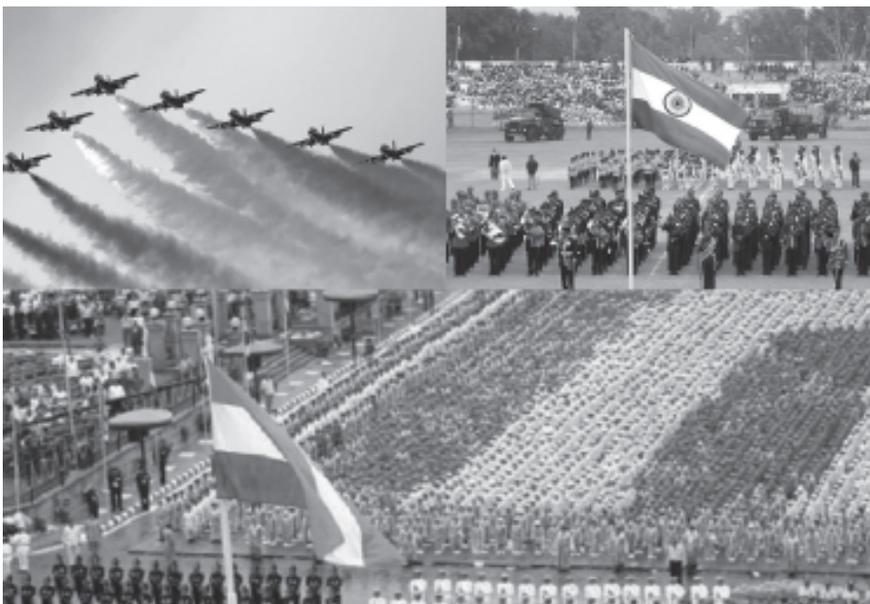


Figure 11.2 National festivals as Tourist attractios



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**Republic Day:** Commemorating the day India became a Republic, in 1950 on 26 January, every year is witness to a colourful celebrations with soldiers marching in unison, followed by folk dancers, school children and floats from different states. The beating retreat that marks the end of celebrations on 29 January is a moving ceremony with military bands playing at Vijay Chowk in Delhi.

**Gandhi Jayanti:** The birth anniversary of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi who was born on 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the year 1869.

Celebrations of National festivals exhibit Political and Socio-cultural scenario of the country and these are alluring Tourist attractions.

### 11.3.2 Other Festivals

#### Hemis Festival, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir

It is a religious festival and is one of the most auspicious occasions for the Buddhist monasteries in India. The courtyard of Hemis Gompa, the largest Buddhist monastery in Ladakh, is the stage for the famous 'Hemis' festival that celebrates the birth anniversary of Guru Padmasambhava. Local people dress up in their finest traditional garb for the occasion. Lamas, called 'chhams,' perform splendid masked dances and perform sacred plays to the accompaniment of cymbals, drums and long horns. The head lama presides over the function. The festival takes an auspicious turn every 12 years in the Tibetan Year, when the two-storey high 'Thanka' depicting Padmasambhava is displayed.

#### Chandrabhaga Mela

Chandrabhaga Mela which is also known as Magha Saptam Mela is a grand fair which is held around February at Khandagiri near Bhubaneswar Odisha. The important fair and festival is celebrated every year during the full moon phase at the sacred Chandrabhaga River. During the seven day fair thousands of pilgrims gather to bathe in the holy Chandrabhaga River.

#### Kumbh Mela

Magh Mela, Kumbh Mela, Ardh Kumb Mela, Ganga, Dussehra, Triveni Mahotsava etc. is a mass Hindu pilgrimage on which Hindus gather at the Ganges and river Godavari, where bathing for purification from sin is considered a very pious religious act. "An eternal life free of sins" is the promise that comes attached with the magnificent event of Kumbh Mela. It's a promise to which millions want to be bound with, and it is this promise that has made Kumbh Mela what it is today.

There is a beautiful story attached to Kumbh Mela. Legend has it that in the mythological times, the gods and the demons once churned the ocean to retrieve the Kumbh (pot) containing nectar / elixir of immortality (Amrit). As Dhanvantari, the divine healer appeared with the Kumbh containing nectar in her palms, a great fight followed between the gods and the demons to wrest the pitcher. During the fierce battle in the sky, a few drops of nectar / elixir of eternal life fell at four different places, Prayag, Haridwar, Nasik and Ujjain. It is believed that these drops gave mystical powers to these places. It is to make oneself gain on those powers that Kumbh Mela is celebrated in each of the four places since long as one can remember.



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**Figure 11.3 Kumbh Mela**

### **The Kutch Festival**

It is celebrated in Kutch, when Shivratri is celebrated in Gujarat. There are colourfully attired dancers, music concerts, Sindhi Bhajan performances. Langa Desert Music and shops selling embroidered to clothes and jewellery are the tourist attractions here.

### **Mewar Festival, Udaipur, Rajasthan**

It is held to commemorate the arrival of spring, with Rajasthani songs, dances, processions, devotional music and firework displays. It is celebrated during the Gangaur Festival where a procession of colourfully attired women, carrying the images of the goddess Gauri, makes their way to Lake Pichola in Udaipur. Visitors also see an unusual procession of boats on the lake.

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### Pooram, Thrissur, Kerala

Pooram is the most colourful of all the temple festivals of Kerala. It is celebrated in Thrissur at Vadakkumanathan temple, dedicated to Lord Shiv, usually in April. The festival includes a magnificent spectacle of fireworks, an umbrella display competition and a splendid elephant procession. The best elephants of the state from the various temples in Kerala are sent to Thrissur to participate in the Pooram festival. It is not surprising that people from all over come to visit this festival especially in the land of gods as Kerala is called.

### Onam

Another Kerala festival is Onam which heralds the harvest season. Onam lasts for 10 days. People wear new clothes, visit temples and offer prayers. Girls perform the Kaikottikkali in the open, dancing around the traditional brass lamp. Major attractions are the famed snake boat races along the backwaters at Champakulam, Aranmula and Kottayam. About a hundred oarsmen in each boat row huge and graceful ode (snake boats) to the rhythm of drums and cymbals and songs praising Mahabali's reign. Cultural festivities are held throughout the state at different venues.

### Ganga Dussehra, North India

Ten days of the month are devoted to the worship of holy river Ganga, venerated by the Hindus as a mother as well as a goddess. Places along the banks of the river such as Rishikesh, Haridwar, Garh-Mukteswar, Prayag, Varanasi, etc., hold special significance during this event. Devotees flock to these places to bathe in the holy river. In Haridwar, 'aartis' are performed at twilight and a large number of devotees who come here from various parts of the country meditate on riverbanks .

### Amarnath Yatra

Pilgrims visit this place in Kashmir, high up among the Himalyan mountains where Lord Shiva explained the secret of salvation to his consort Parvati. It is a very difficult terrain and only very healthy and fit people can visit this place.

### Khajuraho Dance Festival, Bundelkhand, Madhya Pradesh

Khajuraho, well known for its enchanting temples, provides the venue for the Khajuraho festival of classical dance every year, usually from 25 February to 2 March. The dancers perform in an open-air auditorium, usually in front of

the Chitragupta Temple dedicated to Surya (the Sun god) and the Vishwanatha Temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. Local craftsmen display their crafts at an open market.

### **Bihu, Assam**

Bihu or Bohag Bihu is the most important festival of the people of Assam and is celebrated in mid-April to welcome spring. Cattle rites are performed on the first day, and homage is paid to elders, relatives and friends on the second day with a special Bihu meal. The third day is set apart for religious services. Games and sports, special Bihu songs and dances, fairs, etc., are a part of the Bihu celebrations. The Assamese also celebrate Magh Bihu in January, and Kati Bihu in October.

### **Rath Yatra, Orissa**

This spectacular chariot festival celebrated for eight days at the famous Jagannath Temple in Puri. Images of Lord Jagannath, his sister Subhadra and brother Balbhadra are taken out in a procession in three immense chariots. Thousands of devotees pull these chariots to Gundicha Mandir, a temple 3 km away. After a week, the deities return to the main temple in a similar procession. The construction of the chariots begins in April.



### **ACTIVITY 11.1**

Select any one religion of your choice. Prepare a list of all what people do to celebrate their festivals i.e. what customs they follow, food they make etc.



### **INTEXT QUESTIONS 11.1**

#### **A. Choose the correct Answer**

- (i) An event, usually and ordinarily staged by a local community, which centers on and celebrates some unique aspect of that community and the Festival is called
- a. Tradition      b. Festival      c. Culture      d. Fair
- (ii) Gathering of people to display or trade produce or other goods, to parade or display animals and often to enjoy associated entertainment is called
- a. Fair      b. Feast      c. Tradition      d. Festival



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- (iii) Which festival is a mixture of the religious, festive, the spectacular and full of fun and frolic activities?
- a. Gurpurb      b. Baisakhi      c. Christmas      d. Raksha Bandhan
- (iv) Name the states where the following festivals are celebrated
- a. Bihu      b. Baisakhi      c. Rath Yatra      d. Kutch

### 11.4 FAIRS : TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

India is a vast and multicultural country. It is also the destination of countless fairs which attract domestic and international tourists. Fairs are rich sources of tourist attractions because they display varieties of local socio-cultural attractions for the tourists in the form of joy, entertainment, enthusiasm and spectacular events. We shall now read about some major fairs of international repute which have been very successful in attracting a large crowd of visitors every year.

They not only add to fun and gaiety of any fair but also help in the economy of the country. Hence tourists should be encouraged to visit them especially if they are in the vicinity of these events

Most of the fairs held in India are either religious fairs or celebration of change of seasons. A number of big fairs are held at important places of pilgrimage. Khumbh Mela is the largest religious gathering in the world which is held at four Holy cities of India. Some of the big religious fairs in India are Pushkar Fair, Baneshwar Fair, Gangasagar Fair, Tarnetar Mela, Chaitre Chaudash Mela, Nagaur fair, and many monsoon festivals or fairs. Kolkata Book Fair is the world's third largest annual conglomeration of books and world's largest non-trade book fair. The famous Sonapur Cattle Fair near Patna is the biggest cattle fair in Asia and the world's largest animal fair.

#### Pushkar Fair

This is one of the world's largest camel fairs, held during October-November in the oldest city of Rajasthan "Pushkar". It attracts a large number of visitors from all around the world, especially from Israel. It is also an important competitions such as the matka phod and the longest mustache and the Hot air balloon are experiences enjoyed by the tourists. People also gather to watch camel racing, tent pegging and other such events.



**Figure 11.4 Camel Fair**



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### **Desert Festivals**

Desert Festivals of Jaisalmer and Nagaur are other famous festivals which attract tourists. In Jaisalmer, it is a three day event marked with colour, music and festivity. Tourists over here can witness gair and fire dancers dancing to traditional tunes, camel polo and camel dance. There is a turban tying competition also. Many folk performers also find a platform to show off their talent. There are snake charmers, puppeteers and acrobats who charm the Indian and foreign tourists.

### **The Sonepur Fair**

The Sonepur Fair is the only one of its kind in the world. Haathi Bazaar is one of the major attractions of the fair, where elephants are lined up for sale. Apart from this, all breeds of buffaloes, donkeys, ponies and birds are also available for sale. It is the largest animal fair in Indian which attracts people from all around Asia.

### **Ambubasi Fair**

The Ambubasi Fair is the three-day traditional fair which is organised every year during monsoon in the Kamakhya temple at Guwahati, Assam. Devotees from different parts of the country come here to take part in this fair.

### **Baneshwar Fair**

The Baneshwar fair is a very popular tribal fair held in Dungarpur district in Rajasthan during the month of February. This is a religious fair with simple and traditional rituals to worship Lord Shiva. This fair is the center of attraction

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of a large number of tribals from the neighbouring states. It is now becoming a very popular tourist attraction. The tribal way of celebration is very different from the others and is worth visiting.

### Goa Carnival

The months of December, January and February are one of the best times for tourists to visit Goa. It is a beautiful state and Christians form a very large section of the people here. It is not surprising that Christmas over here is celebrated with great fanfare. The Goa carnival is a very important fair here. Fun, creativity, music, dance and good food are important part of the carnival. Huge parades are organised throughout the state with bands, dances, floats, strumming of guitars and non stop festivity. No wonder it is popular with the tourists. It involves a public celebration or parade combining some elements of a circus, mask and public street party. People often dress up or masquerade during the celebrations. Tourists from all over India and abroad come here to witness this carnival.

### Suraj Kund Craft Mela

It is a major tourist attraction in the country. It is held every year from 1st to 15th Feb at Suraj Kund in Faridabad district of Haryana State. It has a lovely display of art works made by talented artists from all over India. Most of the articles are affordable and suit the visitors pocket. It is not surprising that this Mela, literally draws lakhs of visitors.

### Taj Mahotsav, Agra, Uttar Pradesh

A 10-day event, the Taj Mahotsav is a culturally vibrant platform that brings together the finest Indian crafts and cultural nuances. Starting on 18 February each year in Shilpgram, the Taj Mahotsav is a much awaited event. India's extensive arts, crafts and culture are on display. Folk music, shayari (poetry) and classical dance performances as well as elephant and camel rides, games and a food festival, all form a part of the festivities.

### International Yoga Week, Rishikesh, Uttaranchal

Yoga literally means 'union' – of the breath and body, the mind and muscles and, more importantly, a union of the self with the divine. To promote the ancient science of Yoga, a week long event is organised by the State Tourism Department at Rishikesh on the banks of river Ganga during February-March. Detailed lectures, demonstrations of various asanas by prominent exponents of Yoga are the major highlights of the Yoga Week. Since yoga is becoming popular

world wide it is not surprising that many tourists come to India to participate and learn yoga.

### **Elephant Festival, Jaipur, Rajasthan**

The Elephant Festival is held every year, a day before Holi. The festival begins with a procession of elephants, camels, and horses, painted and tastefully attired with ornaments and embroidered velvet, followed by lively folk dancers. The elephants greet the visitors, offer garlands to the guests and walk past the ramp before a jury of experts and tourists who select the Best-decorated Elephant. Elephant races and elephant polo matches are special features. The tug of war between elephants and men is probably the most exhilarating highlight of the festival.



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### **Sindhu Darshan Festival, Leh, Ladakh, Jammu & Kashmir**

The Sindhu Darshan Festival is a celebration of River Sindhu (Indus) which originates from the lake Mansarovar in Tibet. As part of the celebrations, various groups from different states in India bring water from the other great rivers in the country in earthen pots and immerse these pots in the Sindhu, thereby mingling the river water with other waters of the land.

### **National Kite Festival, Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

On Makar Sankranti, Ahmedabad is at its colourful best as kites of all colours, patterns and dimensions soar into the sky. Special kites with little paper lamps illuminate the night sky with myriad flickering lights. Special Gujarati cuisine, exhibitions of handicrafts, and folk art enhance the festive spirit acting as tourist attractions for people.

### **Champakkulam Boat Race, Kerala**

Champakkulam boat race marks the beginning of the season for boat races in Kerala. Named after the serene village of Champakulam, this race is held on the course of River Pamba. The snake boat race is often considered as the ultimate test of endurance, speed and skill in this region and rowers numbering about 90 to 100 on each boat undergo rigorous training for several days, prior to participating in the race.

### **Other Popular Fairs in India: Tourist Attractions**

Raasmela (Bilasipara, Assam), Brahamotsavam (Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh), Sonepur Mela (Sonepur, Bihar), Somnath Fair (Patan, Gujarat) Gangor Mela

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(Sirsa, Haryana), Surajkund Mela (Surajkund, Haryana), Kisan Mela ( Karnal, Haryana), Dehati Mela (Ladana, Haryana), Minjar Fair (Chamba, Himachal Pradesh), Dussehra (Kullu, Himachal Pradesh), Jhiri Mela (Jhiri, Jammu & Kashmir), Kunda Fair ( Pratappur, Jharkhand), Dassara ( Mysore, Karnataka), Godachi Fair (Godachi, Karnataka), Hampi Festival (Hampi, Karnataka), Pooram Festival (Trichur, Kerala), Makara Vilakku (Malappuram, Kerala), Chirappu (Kottayam, Kerala), Omallor Fair (Omallor, Kerala), Magara Jyoti (Sabarimala, Kerala), Sri Sundaeswar (Kannur, Kerala), Utsavam (Malappuram, Kerala), Aranmula Vallamkali (Aranmula, Kerala), Kerala Village Fair (Kovalam, Kerala), Kartik Mela (Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh), Kadam Mela (Kharagpur, Madhya Pradesh), Gwalior Trade Fair (Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh), Makar Sankranti (Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh), Nimar Utsav (Maheshwar, Madhya Pradesh), Kumbh Mela (Nashik, Maharashtra), Sharda Utsav (Nagpur, Maharashtra), Ganesh Festival (Sangli, Maharashtra), Rath Yatra (Puri, Odisha), Joranda Mela (Joranda, Odisha), Dhanu Jatra, (Bargarh, Odisha), Bali Yatra (Cuttack, Odisha), Chatar Yatra (Kalahandi, Odisha), Rural Olympics (Quila Raipur, Punjab), Hollah Mohllah (Anand Pur Sahib, Punjab), Baisakhi (Talvandi Sahib, Punjab), Maghi Mela (Muktsar, Punjab), Ramteerth Mela ( Kaler, Punjab), Sahidi Jod Mela ( Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab), Sodal Mela (Jalandhar, Punjab), Chappar Mela (Chappar, Punjab), Khatu Shyam ji (Sikar, Rajasthan), Gangaur Festival (Jaipur), Urs Ajmer (Ajmer, Rajasthan), Pushkar Fair (Pushkar, Rajasthan), Ramdevra (Ramdevra, Rajasthan), Dussehra Mela (Kota, Rajasthan), Beneshwar Fair, (Dungerpur, Rajasthan), Chanderbhaga Fair (Jhalawar, Rajasthan), Khetlaji Fair (Bundi, Rajasthan), Ranisati Mela (Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan), Kaila Devi Fair ( Karauli, Rajasthan), Kallaji Ka Mela ( Banswara, Rajasthan), Marwar Festival (Jodhpur, Rajasthan), Peria Kirthigal (Trupparankundram, Tamil Nadu), Panimaya Matha Festival (Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu), Eallazhagar Bannaral (Bannaral, Tamil Nadu), Kundam (Chikkaram, Tamil Nadu), Bemoli Katra Mela (Bemoli Katra, Uttar Pradesh), Kailash Mela (Agra, Uttar Pradesh), Makar Sankranti (Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh), Kumbh Mela (Haridwar, Uttar Pradesh), Barabanki Mela (Deva Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh), Ramnavami Mela (Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh), Sharvan Jhoola (Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh), Nauchandi Mela (Meerut, Uttar Pradesh), Chitrakoot Ramlila (Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh), Rambarat (Agra, Uttar Pradesh), Cattle Fair ( Dadri, Uttar Pradesh), Gokulanand Mela (Gokulpur, West Bengal), Sankranti Mela (Ganganagar, West Bengal), Phool Walon ki Sair, Books & Trade fairs, (Delhi) etc.



### ACTIVITY 11.2

Select any major fair which you might have visited. List the things you saw there. Of these what according to you, are the major tourists attractions.



## INTEXT QUESTIONS 11.2

### 1. Tick the correct option

- i. Sonapur fair is popular as
    - a. animal fair
    - b. book fair
    - c. camel fair
    - d. mango fair
  - ii. The largest and holiest fair in India is
    - a. Goa Carnival
    - b. Pushkar fair
    - c. Kumbh mela
    - d. Makar Sankranti
2. Why are fairs considered as tourist attractions?
  3. Describe the significance of Kumbh for tourists.
  4. Why is the Goa Carnival an International tourist attraction?

## 11.5 EVENTS AS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Dance and music have always happened to be the most popular choice of tourists. It is not surprising that Dance festivals are held throughout the year all over the country. Indian dances are very popular everywhere. This may be on account of the fact that among Indians who have settled abroad these events have popularized them. It is not surprising that many tourists - Indians and foreigners visit dance festivals. Some of the very popular dance and music festivals are Konark dance festival of Orissa, Khajuraho dance festival of Madhya Pradesh and Chennai dance and music festival.

Classical and Regional Dances namely Bharatanatyam (Tamil Nadu), Kathak (Rajasthan, Punjab, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh), Kathakali (Kerala), Kuchipudi (Andhra Pradesh), Manipuri (Manipur), Mohiniyattam (Kerala), Odissi (Odisha), Sattriya (Assam), Garba & Dandia (Gujarat) and Bhangra (Punjab) etc. are an integral part of Tourist attractions in India.

### 11.5.1 Popular Dance Forms of India

India is best known for its diversity in culture, tradition, and language. Like the ancient Indian culture the classical dance forms of India has a long history of 2000 years. Most of the dances were performed in the temples before the deities, sometimes they were also performed in the royal courts for the visitors to the King one such example is Kathak which received patronage in the Mughal courts.

Most of the classical dance styles of India were developed in the 2nd and 3rd centuries. In India, eight major Indian classical dance forms are very popular



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and attended by a large number of people. These are Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Kathakali, Kuchipudi, Manipuri, Mohiniattam, Odissi and Sattriya.

### Bharatanatyam

This classical dance form was originated in Tamil Nadu state of India during the late 18th and early 19th century.

Bharatanatyam is a widely appreciated dance form and it demands unconditional and undivided dedication to become a good Bharatanatyam dancer.

In earlier days it was known as ‘Daasiyattam’ since it was performed by the the Devadasies in temples of Tamil Nadu. The Bharatanatyam was derived from three basic concepts of Bhava, Raga, and Thaala. The music used during the performance is based on Carnatic classical music. Mridangam, veena, flute, and violin are main musical instruments, used during dance performance.



Figure 11.5 BharataNatyam

### Kathak

This classical dance form was initially performed as a temple ritual in north India but later became royal court entertainment under the Mughal and Persian influence.

The word Kathak derived from the word Katha (story telling). The classical dance basically revolves around the ancient storytelling and the performer mainly emphasises on facial expressions and movement of feet and hands. The soulful music accompanies the dance performance with traditional musical instruments.



**Figure 11.6 Kathak**

### **Kathakali**

This is a unique form of dance drama from Kerala, which is performed on stories from the Hindu epics like the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, and the Purans in the temples.



**Figure 11.7 A Kathakali**



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The dancers use big masks with heavy make-up and costumes. Dancers wear huge colorful skirt and head dress. Three groups of performers participate in the Kathakali dance: the dancer, vocalist, and the percussionists. The dancers play a variety of roles (like king, gods, demons, animal, priests etc.) during the performance.

The facial expression, hand movements (Mudras), and eye movement are used by the dancers to convey their dialogue to the spectators. Kathakali dancers perform to the beats of three distinguished drums- Cena, Edakka, and Maddalam. All three drums produce distinct sounds.

### Kuchipudi

This dance originated from Andhra Pradesh. It was initially performed in the temples by the Brahmin men, known as Bhagavathalu. It is a form of dance-drama, enacted at night in the open air on an improvised stage. The dancers wear colourful costumes, make-up, and heavy jewellery and ornaments. During the dance performance classical Carnatic music is used. Mridangam, violin, and clarinet are the major musical instruments used during the performance.



Figure 11.8 Kuchipudi

### Manipuri

Manipuri dance is a classical dance form of Manipur. It is a very ancient form of Indian classical dance and the earliest records of this dance date back to about 100 AD. As compared to other Indian classical dances Manipuri dance movements are slow and graceful. The gentle arm and foot movement make the dance performance differ from other classical dances. The main musical instrument of Manipuri dance is Manipuri Dholak.



**Figure 11.9 Manipuri dance**



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### **Mohiniattam**

This dance form belongs to Kerala. Mohiniattam means Mohini's Dance (according to Indian mythology, Mohini was incarnation of Lord Vishnu in the form of a beautiful woman with the intention to slay the demon Bhasmasur).



**Figure 11.10 A Mohiniyattam**

### **Odissi**

Odissi dance style originates from Odisha. It is considered to be one of the oldest surviving dance forms in the world. In ancient times it was performed in the temples of Odisha. Odissi dance is very similar to the Bharatanatyam in respect to expressions and mudras. The dance is based on the Sanskrit play Geet Govinda which shows love and devotion to Lord Krishna.

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Notes



Figure 11.11 Odissi

### Sattriya

It is the classical dance form of Assam. It was introduced by the great Vaishnav saint and reformer of Assam, Mahapurusha Shankaradeva. Sattriya dance tradition is governed by strictly laid down principles in respect of hastamudras, footwork, aharyas and music etc. The costumes of the dancer are made of Assam Pat Silk and traditional Assamese jewellery. It is accompanied by musical compositions called borgets based on classical ragas.



Figure 11.12 Sattriya dance

### 11.5.2 Music: Tourist Attraction

Like dances, Indian music is also a strong factor which attracts Tourists to any place or event in fact tourists visiting such places should be encouraged to be part of any event hosting music or dance events.

Indian music is traditionally taught via oral methods and, until the 20th century, did not employ notations as the primary media of instruction, understanding, or transmission. The rules of Indian music and compositions themselves are taught by a guru to a shishya, in person. Various Indian music schools follow notations and classifications.

#### Hindustani Classical music

Hindustani music is mainly found in North India. Khayal and Dhrupad are its two main forms, but there are several other classical and semi-classical forms. There is a significant amount of Persian influence on Hindustani music in terms of the instruments, style of presentation, and ragas such as Hijaz Bhairav, Bhairavi, Bahar, and Yaman. Hindustani music has assimilated various folk tunes, for example, ragas such as Kafi and Jaijaiwanti are based on folk tunes. Players of the tabla, a type of drum, usually keep the rhythm, an indicator of time in Hindustani music.

Another common instrument is the stringed tanpura, which is played at a steady tone (a drone) throughout the performance of the raga, and which provides both a point of reference for the musician and a background against which the music stands out. The task of playing the tanpura traditionally falls to a student of the soloist. Other instruments for accompaniment include the sarangi and the harmonium. They form a very important part of any music festival that takes place anywhere in the country.

#### Carnatic music (South Indian music)

Carnatic music, from South India, tends to be more rhythmically intensive and structured than Hindustani music. Examples of this are the logical classification of ragas into melakarthis, and the use of fixed compositions similar to Western classical music. Carnatic raga elaborations are generally much faster in tempo and shorter than their equivalents in Hindustani music. In addition, accompanists have a much larger role in Carnatic concerts than in Hindustani concerts.

Primary themes include worship, descriptions of temples, philosophy, and nayaka-nayika themes.



Notes

## MODULE – 3

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### INTEXT QUESTIONS 11.3

#### 1. Tick the correct option

- i. Bharatanatyam dance has its origin in
    - a. Karnataka
    - b. Maharashtra
    - c. Odisha
    - d. TamilNadu
  - ii. Indian dances depend on
    - a. Raaga
    - b. Bhav
    - c. Mudra
    - d. Bhav and mudras
  - iii. Which dance form depicts stories from epics and scriptures
    - a. Kathakali
    - b. Bharatanatyam
    - c. Kathak
    - d. Odissi
  - iv. South Indian music is also known as
    - a. Carnatic music
    - b. Dakhinni musi
    - c. Kannada music
    - d. Hindustani music
2. Why are dance and music an integral part of Tourist attractions?
  3. List any five popular Indian music instruments.



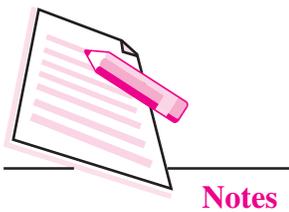
### ACTIVITY 11.3

Collect pictures and information of different forms of Indian dance and music, and paste them in the scrap book.

### 11.6 FOOD ITEMS: AS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Human beings desire to taste the cuisine which they have not tasted before. This makes food and beverages as major Tourist attractions. Fairs and festivals serve most of these cuisines. Sewiyyan, a sweet dessert is one of the most important cuisine on Eid ul fiter which is popularly called sewiyyan wali Eid.

Similarly, a dessert called gujiyan on Holi and certain food items are served as Prasad on festivals which is available only in those days. As explained above, India has multicultural diversity which make it a country with varieties of food and beverages which can be had by the food loving tourists visiting that place or in the occasion of a festival. Listed below are some very popular cuisines in India which tourists can enjoy and sometimes even take home e.g. Namkeens of Gujarat and Rajasthan, Dhoda sweet from Gurgaon, Petha from Agra, and



Pedas from Mathura, banana chips from Kerala, Mishti Dahi and Rosogullaha from Kolkata while Saffron and Waazwan comes from Kashmir and Apples from Kullu. .

### Cuisines Available for Tourists in India

- i. Rogan Josh (Curried lamb), Gushtaba (Spicy meat balls in yoghurt), and the delicious Biryani (chicken or lamb in orange flavoured rice, sprinkled with sugar and rose water).
- ii. Tandoori cooking (chicken, meat or fish marinated in herbs and baked in a clay oven) and kebabs are also Northern cuisine.
- iii. Bhujia (vegetable curry), Dosa, Idli and Sambar (Rice pancakes, dumplings with Pickles and Vegetable and Lentil curry), and Raitas (yoghurt with grated cucumber and mint).
- iv. Bombay duck (curried or fried fish) and Pomfret (Indian salmon).
- v. Parsi Dhan Sak (lamb or chicken cooked with curried lentils) and Vindaloo vinegar marinade.
- vi. Fish in Bengali cooking as in Dahi Maach (curried fish in yoghurt flavoured with turmeric and ginger) and Malai prawn (curried prawn with coconut).
- vii. Pooris, Chappatis, Makki, Bajra Roti-Sarson Saag and Nan etc. Common throughout India are Dals (crushed lentil soup with various additional vegetables), and Dahi, the curd or yoghurt.

### Desserts

Some common Indian Sweets and Desserts include:

- i. Barfi: A sweet made of dried milk with ground cashews or pistachios, often served with a thin layer of edible silver foil as decoration.
- ii. Chikki: A sweet made out of peanuts and molasses.
- iii. Gulab Jamun: A dessert consisting of fried milk balls soaked in sweet syrup, such as rose syrup or honey.
- iv. Jalebi: Dough fried in a coil shape dipped in sugar syrup, often taken with milk, tea, yogurt, or Lassi.
- v. Kulfi: An Indian ice cream in a variety of flavours such as mango, saffron, or cardamom.



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### Notes

- vi. Kheer: A sweet rice pudding usually made with rice and milk.
- vii. Malpua: A type of pancake made of wheat or rice flour, deep fried and dipped in sugar syrup.
- viii. Rasgulla: A popular sweetmeat, produced by boiling small balls of collage cheese in sugar syrup.
- ix. Sandesh: A sweet made from cheese, kneaded with fine ground sugar and molasses.
- x. Shrikhand: A creamy dessert made out of strained yogurt, often served with dried fruits such as mangoes.
- xi. Kaju Katli: Similar to Barfi, mainly comprises cashew powder along with ghee, cardamom powder and sugar.
- xii. Rabri: Rabri is a sweet, condensed milk based dish made by boiling the milk on low heat for a long time until it becomes dense and changes its colour to pinkish. Sugar, spices and nuts are added for flavour.

## BEVERAGES

### Non-alcoholic Beverages

- i. Masala Tea
- ii. Indian Filter Coffee popular in Southern India.
- iii. Lassi
- iv. Sattu
- vi. Chaach, Sharbat and Nimbu Pani (Lemonade)
- vii. Badam Doodh and Coconut water
- viii. Panner Soda or “Gholi Soda”



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 11.4

1. Why are cuisines unavoidable Tourist attractions?
2. Name any five food styles of India available to the tourists.



### ACTIVITY 11.4

Make a list (region wise) of Indian foods, desserts and beverages and collect informations about them with their pictures if possible.



### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- The cultural components of any society are based on its religion, festivals and events that are a part of that society.
- You are aware of different festivals celebrated in the country and also the communities which are associated with them and also the months in which they are held.
- You have also read about the innumerable fairs and melas organised in different regions of the country; the events associated with them as well as the foods and programmes associated with them.



### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Differentiate between Festivals and Fairs.
2. Why are Culture, festivals and fairs considered as Tourist attractions?
3. Mention any three major Hindu festivals. How do they become Tourist attractions? Explain.
4. Mention any two major Muslim festivals. How do they serve as Tourist attractions? Explain.
5. Identify the major Jain and Buddhist festivals and state their significance as Tourist attractions.
6. List the major Sikh and Christian festivals, which are Tourist attractions.
7. Explain the significance of National festivals which attract tourists to various places.
8. Throw light on the Tourist attractions of five most popular fairs of India.
9. Comment on Indian dances as tourist attractions.
10. Highlight special features of any three Indian dances which are a great source of attraction for the tourists.



### ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 11.1

- (i) c
- (ii) a



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### Notes

(iii) c

(iv) (a) Assam (b) Punjab (c) Odisha (d) Gujarat

### 11.2

1. i) a

ii) c

2. They hold certain events which attract people like the Goa Carnival or the Kumbh Mela.
3. The event takes place after every 12 years and Hindus consider bathing in the river Ganges as a pious act.
4. Goa carnival is an annual event which takes place in Goa every year which is filled with fun, frolic, and merry making. Many visitors flock to see this event.

### 11.3

1. (i) d

(ii) d

(iii) a

(iv) a

2. Dance and music are enjoyed by the tourists especially the foreign tourist. This is because these events have been popularised by the Indians settled abroad.
3. Mridanga, violin, tabla, flute, bansuri, harmonium, sitar, veena, dholak, sarod

### 11.4

1. The cuisines form an integral part of any cultural programme together with the festivals and fairs held in the country.
2. Mughlai, Oudhi, Rajasthani, South Indian, Punjabi, Gujarati, Maharastrian. Food.

**12****NATURAL TOURIST  
ATTRACTIONS IN INDIA**

Notes

India is a vast country with immense geographical and cultural diversity. The diversity varies from the Himalayan Mountain in north to coasts in the south and from Thar Desert of Rajasthan in the west to the humid forests of the North-East. Even the climatic conditions vary from the equatorial in the south to the polar region in the higher slope of northern mountain. This rich diversity is bound to create many natural attractions for the tourists visiting these places. The people from plain and Southern India would like to visit the Himalayan hill stations in search of a cool climate during summer. Similarly, people from the north would like to see the coastal areas. This plays a great role in providing opportunities for the development of tourism in the country. Each geographical region has its own beauty. Life has become very hectic and mechanical. People now prefer to go back to nature to refresh themselves. Natural beauty is now very much in demand not only by domestic tourists but also international tourists. In this lesson we shall read about India's geographical features and appreciate what it has to offer to tourists to see, enjoy and appreciate.

**OBJECTIVES**

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- describe the physical features of India;
- explain distribution of tourist places in India;
- identify the natural attractions of tourist regions popular with the WildLife;
- describe the different Bird Sanctuaries in India and
- illustrate the various hill stations in India.

**12.1 PHYSICAL FEATURES OF INDIA**

The physical features of India refer to the physical appearance of the country in terms of altitude, geological history, formation and geographical characteristics. Based on this criterion, India can be divided into four major regions (Fig. 12.1):

1. The Northern Mountains Regions
2. The Great Northern Plains
3. The Peninsular Plateau
4. The Coastal Plains and Islands.

**12.1.1 The Northern Mountains**

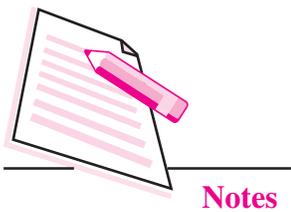
The Northern boundary of the country is formed by the mountain system of the Himalayas. It stretches from Jammu and Kashmir in the Northwest to the hill ranges of Purvanchal in the East. The literal meaning of the Himalaya (Him+Aalay) is the abode of snow. It is one of the youngest fold mountains of the world, rising to over 8000 meter above mean sea level. Being the highest mountain system of the world, it also has the highest peak of the world.

Himalayas can be divided into mainly three parallel ranges running from West to East direction:

- a. Greater Himalaya or the Himadri
- b. Lesser Himalaya or the Himachal
- c. Outer Himalaya or the Siwalik

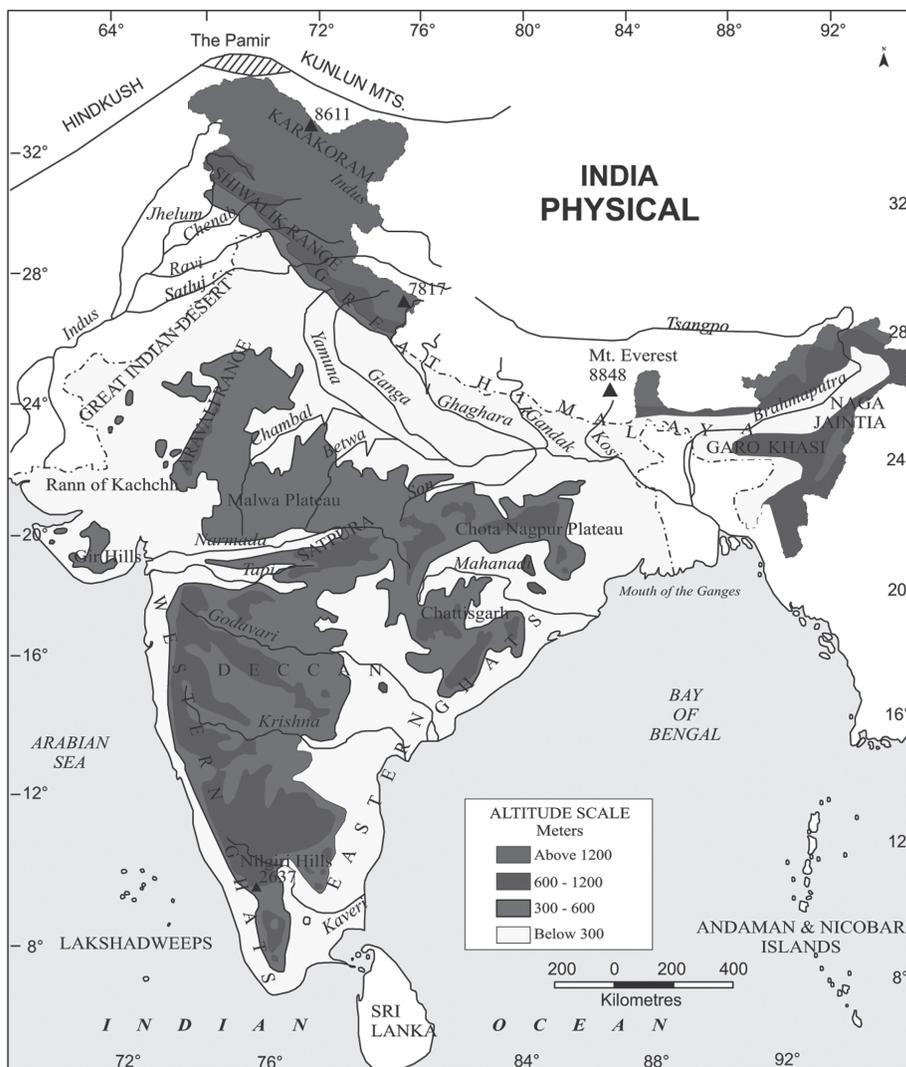
**Greater Himalaya or the Himadri:** It is the northern most range with an average height of 6000 meter AMSL. Its width varies between 90 km to 120 km. The greatest peak of the world, the Mt. Everest, 8848 meter (Nepal) is in this range. The great peaks in Indian Territory are Kanchenjunga (8598 meter), Makalu (8481 meter), Dhaulagiri (8172 meter), Manaslu (8156 meter), Nanda Devi (7817 meter) etc. Many of the high mountain passes like Bara Lacha La, Shipkila, Thangla La, Nathula, Zojla etc. are located in this region of the Himalaya. This area is also very much in demand for adventure tourism activities like rockclimbing, trekking, and watching the natural beauty of the region.

**Lesser Himalaya or the Himachal:** This range runs almost parallel and to the south of the Himadri. Its altitude varies from 1800 to 3000 meter and its width is 60 to 80 km. The Dhauladhar, the Pirpanjal, Mahabharat Range and Mussoorie Range are included in this section. It is a complex mosaic of forest covered by ranges and fertile valleys. There are many hill stations like Shimla, Kullu, Manali, Dharamshala, Chail, Chakrata, Mussoorie, Nainital, Almora, Ranikhet, and Darjeeling besides many others in this region.

**Notes**



Notes



**Figure 12.1: Physical Features of India**

The British rulers in India developed some of these hill stations to escape the heat of the summer seasons. These hill stations are very much in demand even today, particularly in the summer season, to get respite from the scorching heat of the sun in the plains and plateau region of the country.

**Outer Himalaya or the Siwalik:** They are the southern most range of the mountains and are popularly known as the foothills of the Himalayas. Its altitude varies from 900 to 1500 meter and its width from 15 to 50 km. They are the newly formed ranges of the Himalayas. To the south of this range are the great plains of North India. The adjoining land between plains and the mountains is known as the Terai region. It has very dense vegetation which is deciduous in nature and is characterized by many long, flat-bottomed valleys known as Duns, for example Dehra Dun.

**Notes****12.1.2 The Northern Plains**

The Great Northern Plains are placed between the Himalayas in the north to Peninsular Plateau in the south. It extends from the western boundary of the country from Punjab and Rajasthan to the Ganges delta and the Brahmaputra plain in the East. It has three main river systems namely the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra. It is almost 2400 km in length from west to east. Its width varies from 200 km in Bihar to about 500 km in Punjab and Rajasthan. One of the most important characteristics of the Great Northern Plains has been the rise of many religions as well as being the center of civilization since time immemorial. Many of the religions, Hinduism, Sikhism, Buddhism and Jainism have evolved from this area. There are many cultural and religious centers in the plains, which have emerged as the centers of tourism for foreign as well as domestic tourists. Almost the entire region is famous for various kinds of attractions for tourists. These are religious places, heritage sites and historical monuments etc. about which you will read in different lessons in this course of Tourism. In fact they are the driving force for growing tourism in the plains of the country.

**12.1.3 The Peninsular Plateau**

The Peninsula Plateau is located to the south of the Great Northern Plains. It is surrounded by seas from three sides. It is one of the oldest land features of world. The Narmada river divides this peninsula into two parts. The Central Highland is north of the Narmada river and the Deccan Plateau lying to the South of this river.

**The Central Highland:** It is very important for the availability of minerals and fossil fuels like coal. Varieties of minerals like iron-ore, bauxite, copper, manganese, lead, zinc, coal, mica, nickel etc. are found in abundance. These minerals are the backbone for industrial development. Many of them are very essential for the development of infrastructures. The area offers great employment opportunity to the people as well as tourism.

**The Deccan Plateau:** It covers an area of about 7 lakh sq. km. Its Northern boundary is along the Satpura Range, Mahadev Hills and Rajmahal Hills. Together they form the base of the triangular shape of the Deccan Plateau. Its two sides run along the Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats and converge at the southern tip of the Peninsula. It stretches over Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Many of the east flowing rivers originate from the Western Ghats and drain downwards to the east because it slopes towards the eastern side. The Plateau can be divided into three distinct

zones, namely the Deccan Trap, also known as the area of black cotton soil, the Western Ghats and the Eastern Ghats.

Western Ghats is one of the world's top ten "Biodiversity Hotspots". The hot spot includes many national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, biosphere reserve and reserve forests. Many of them are designated as the heritage sites. The hill-stations and heritage sites are in good demand for tourists. There are many tunnels in the way. They provide beautiful picturesque scenic beauty with numerous waterfalls. They provide connectivity through road and railways. They play an important role in promoting tourism by reducing the time, distance and money of the tourists.

The Eastern Ghats are a discontinuous mountain range along the eastern coast of India. The Nimaigiri hills of Koraput and Mahendragiri hills of Ganjam districts of Odisha attain a height of about 1500 meter. These hills are thickly forested. Udagamandalam (Ooty), situated in Nilgiri Hills, is a very favoured hill station of South India. The southern parts of these broken ranges are lower in height. The southern part of this culminates in the form of a tip, joining both the Ghats – Western and Eastern.

#### **12.1.4 The Coastal Plains and Islands**

The Coastal Plains of India are found on both coasts – eastern and western. Western Coastal Plain is confined between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea. It starts from the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat in the North to Kanyakumari in the South. Several cascading waterfalls may be observed which attract tourists from various regions. This plain is simply divided into three.

The northern plain is known as Konkan Plain, the middle one as Kannad Plain and the southernmost as Malabar Plain. There are a number of long and narrow lagoons and backwaters e.g. Vembanad which is very famous in Kerala.

The Eastern Coastal Plains are located between the Eastern Ghats and the Bay of Bengal, starting from the southern part of the Gangatic Delta to Kanyakumari. Near Kanyakumari both plains – Eastern and Western meet and converge into one. This plain is about 120 km wide. These plains are very rich in soil fertility, producing abundance of rice. There are many rivers draining through this plain creating delta at their mouths. There are many lagoons formed along this coast and they are the center of attractions for the tourists. Chilka, Pulikat and Kolusu lakes are famous which attract tourists in great number.

There are two groups of Islands. All together there are 247 islands with India. They are scattered into two groups - Andaman and Nicobar Group and Lakshadweep Group. There are 222 islands in the Bay of Bengal and remaining

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## MODULE – 4

### Natural Diversity as Tourist Attraction



Notes

## Natural Tourist Attractions in India

25 islands are in the Arabian Sea. Both groups of islands are quite different in terms of their formation.

The islands in the Arabian Sea are mostly made up of coral deposits, hence, known as coral islands. The islands of the Bay of Bengal are basically made up due to tectonic activities, related to the formation of the Tertiary Mountain system. If one sees the extension of the Himalayas from Northeastern States further down towards the Bay of Bengal, it appears that it is the Himalayan orogeny. The islands are very special particularly from the point of view of tourism.



### ACTIVITY 12.1

Take an outline map of India and show different physiographic regions of the country. Locate your position on the map. Write the characteristics of the area where you are living, in terms of physiography. Write an account of the tourism activities in your area. If the tourism activities are not found in your areas, prepare a list of reasons for it.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 12.1

1. Write any three characteristics of the Deccan Plateau.
2. Which of the Ghats is the Biodiversity Hotspots in India?
3. Differentiate the Andaman Nicobar Islands and the Lakshadweep Islands.

## 12.2 DISTRIBUTION OF TOURISTS PLACES IN INDIA

Almost the whole of India has many attractions for tourists both natural and cultural. Therefore, tourist centers are distributed throughout the country. These attractions are very closely associated with certain types of physiographic regions of the country. For examples, hill-stations are on the hills and mountains which offer cool climatic conditions. The mountainous region offers adventure tourism such as rock climbing, trekking angling, parachuting, rafting etc. Himalayan rivers provide the base for white water rafting in the Ganga, the Alaknanda, Chenab, the Beas etc. The beaches are found along the sea coasts. The combination of sea, sand and sun is very attractive for tourists such as Kovalam the world famous beach in Kerala. Many areas are full of forests. They have a number of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries; protected forests which are charming for some tourists. Religious faith of the people is a great attraction

for many of the tourists. Hence, those places are also much sought after by the people. Some important places for tourists are shown in the Figure 12.2.



Notes



Figure 12.2: Major Tourist Destinations in India

### 12.2.1 Major Tourist Circuits

There are several tourist centers in India, but some of them are more in demand in comparison to others. Hence, certain special arrangements are provided to facilitate the tourists to visit these circuits without much difficulty.

## MODULE – 4

### Natural Diversity as Tourist Attraction



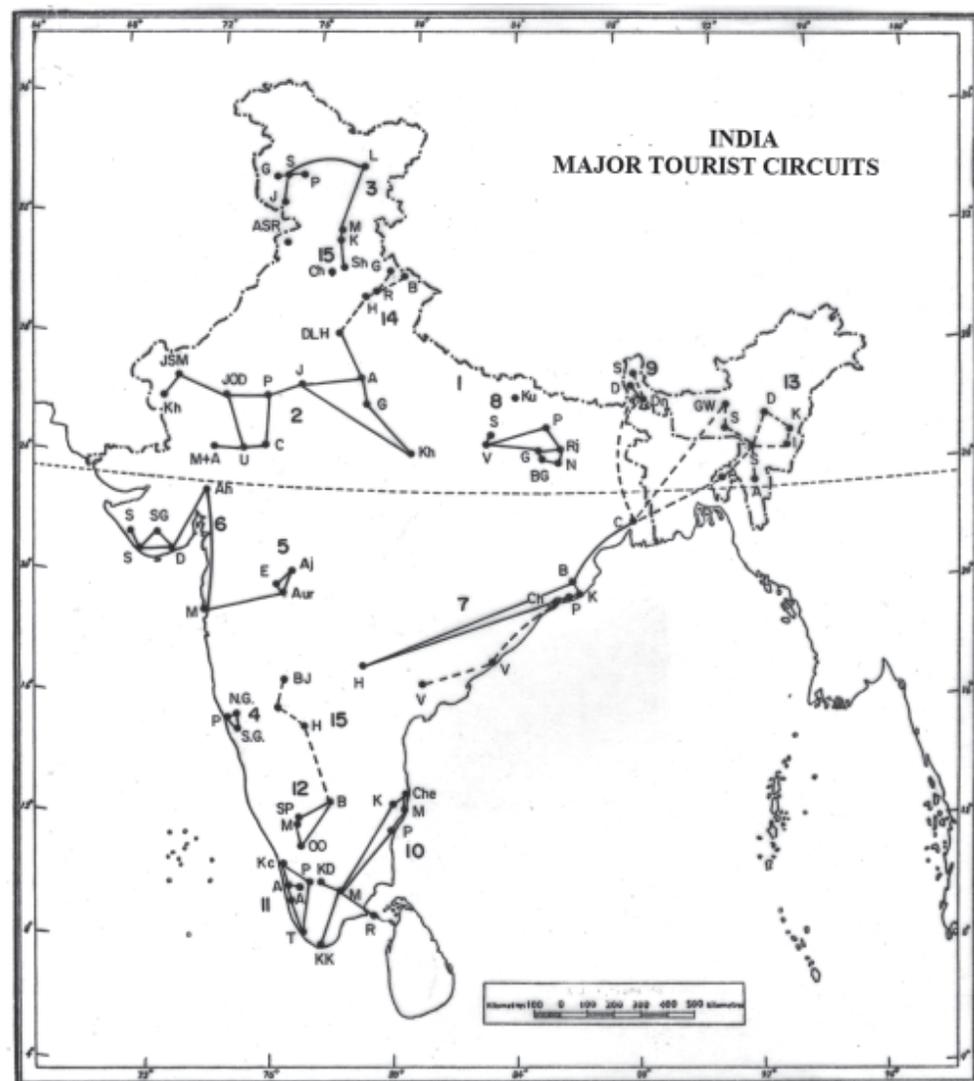
Notes

## Natural Tourist Attractions in India

It is also kept in mind that it should be easy and quick to move with comfort and economy. For this purpose, many tourist circuit routes have been developed by the tour operators depending upon the demand from the tourists. Some of the important among them are:

1. Delhi – Agra – Fatehpur Sikri – Jaipur – Delhi.
2. Gwalior – Khajuraho – Bhopal – Gwalior.
3. Sarnath – Kusinagar – Bodh Gaya – Sarnath.
4. Bhubaneswar – Konark – Puri – Chilka – Bhubaneswar.

And many more are in operation. We can get the details regarding the location and routes of transit circuits from Fig. 12.3.



Based upon Survey of India Outline Map printed in 1996.  
The territorial waters of India extend into the sea to a distance of twelve nautical miles measured from the appropriate base line.  
Responsibility for correctness of internal details shown on the map rests with the publisher.  
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Figure 12.3: Major Tourist Circuits in India.



## MODULE – 4

### Natural Diversity as Tourist Attraction

#### Natural Tourist Attractions in India

to stay at the hill-stations for some days when the sun is very hot in the plains and the plateau.

### 12.3.3 Adventure Tourism

Adventure tourism is one in which tourists are involved in some exploration of less known areas or places particularly in a hostile environment. It can involve some degree of risk or physical damage to them. There are three types of adventure tourism (i) Aerial adventure (ii) Water adventure and (iii) Land adventure.

Aerial adventure includes mainly parachuting and paragliding, water based adventure tourism are rafting and water skiing. In India, land adventure is very popular and includes rock climbing, angling, mountaineering, trekking, mountain biking, skiing etc. This type of tourism is more concentrated in the rugged mountainous terrain. In India, these are more popular in the Himalayan and plateau region.

**Table 12.1 Details of Major Treks in India**

Name of the Treks	Height (meter)	Days	Difficulty Level	Suitable Period for Trekking
Mesmerising Markha Valley	5150	12-15	Moderate	June to October
Frozen River Trek of Ladakh	3850	17-21	Extremely Strenuous	January to March
Striking Stok Kangri	6153	11-13	Easy	June to October
Glorious Goecha La	4940	12-15	Moderate	March to May
Holy Kinner Kailash Circuit	6500	12-16	Moderate to Strenuous	July to October
Pin Parvati Valley (of Gods)	5319	13-17	Moderate to Strenuous	June to October
Hemkund and Valley of Flowers	3853	9-13	Easy	May to October
Gangotri-Gaumukh-Tapoban	4463	9-13	Moderate	May to October
Boundless Nanda Devi	4268	10-13	Moderate	June to October
Dodital – Mythological Lake	4150	6-8	Moderate	May to October
Majestic Khatling Glacier	4200	12-14	Moderate	May to October
Inexplicable Lake of Roopkund	5029	7-9	Moderate	May to October
Garhwal Mountains-Kuari Pass	4575	9-12	Moderate	April to mid-June and August to September
Perfect Panchachuli Base Camp	4260	7-10	Moderate	May to October
Engrossing Milan Glacier-Kumaon	4150	13-15	Moderate to Strenuous	June to October
Soft Adventure of Pindari Glacier	3990	11-13	Easy	May to October
Kafni Glacier-the Hidden Gem	3892	9-11	Easy	May to October
Padam-Darcha - Adobe of Snow	4950	9-12	Easy	June to October
Hiking the Hemis-Nimaling	5270	8-10	Moderate	June to October



Notes

The Table 12.1 shows places for trekking in the Himalayan region. Apart from them, there are many more other trekking routes in the Himalayas as well as in the plateau areas.

Adventure tourism has been gaining popularity in the recent times. Many such programmes have already been prepared while television channels like National Geographic, National Geographic Wild, Animal Planet, Discovery, Discovery Science etc. are making them popular.

### 12.3.4 Wildlife Sanctuaries and National Parks Tourism

A wildlife sanctuary is an area specially planned where any human interference is banned. No one can hunt or shoot any of the animals in the area. Hence, it is a protected area and effort is made to keep the surrounding in its original state. National parks are areas where native plants and animals and their habitats, places of natural beauty, historic heritage and aboriginal cultural heritage are protected. Hence, both wildlife sanctuaries and national parks have great importance in maintaining the awareness about the natural habitat.

The tourism activities are taken up in the wildlife sanctuaries and national parks. It gives an idea of their importance in our life. Though organisation of tours within the pristine environment causes some ill-effect on the surrounding, still they create awareness about their importance.

The wildlife sanctuaries and national parks are mostly associated with the rugged terrain where there are more forested areas. They make 4.5 percent of total geographical area. The area is also less in demand because of the undulating character of the surface where agricultural activities are not well developed. There are 442 wildlife sanctuaries. Among them, there are 41 Tiger Reserve Forests. Some of the Wildlife Sanctuaries are developed for some special purposes like Bird Sanctuary. National Parks are of greater importance at the national level. Today there are 102 National Parks encompassing 39,919 sq. km. of area and many more are under the process of national recognition. Manas, Kanha, Ranthambore, Dudhwa, Bandhavgarh, Jim Corbett, Rajaji, Kaziranga are all very favoured choice of tourist.

### 12.3.5 Beach Tourism

Beach is a land form found along the sea coast of an ocean or sea. It is usually made up of sand, particles, gravels, shingles and pebbles generated from the rock fragments by wave erosion and deposition. Hence, beaches are typically developed in the areas along the coast where wave action deposits the eroded materials. India has a sea coast of about 7000 km. This great length of sea coast provides beautiful beaches and a restful and quiet environment with abundant nearby greenery, perfect to relax and refresh. It rejuvenates the body and mind

**Notes**

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Natural Diversity as  
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Notes

## Natural Tourist Attractions in India

of the visitors. Walking on the water soaked sandy beach along the blue clean water of the ocean generates romanticism. The unending site of the ocean water has a unique feeling of getting away from the earthly worries. The sunrise and sunset are really beautiful to watch from the beach. The sea, sand and the sun annihilate all worries. The locational advantage of beach attracts many tourists, both national and international.

The important beaches of India can be seen in the figure 12.5.



Figure 12.5: Major Beaches in India.



### ACTIVITY 12.2

Take two outline maps of India. On one map, show the hill-stations of India. Based on this map, try to find the answer of the following questions:

- What is the pattern you find on the map?

- b. Where are the most hill-stations located?
- c. What are the reasons for concentration of hill-stations in the Himalayan region?

On the other map, show the sea beaches of the country. What are the main reasons for the growing popularity of tourism on beaches?



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 12.2

1. Describe the major tourist circuits of India.
2. Name the major hill stations in northern India.
3. Explain three types of adventure tourism.

## 12.4 MOST POPULAR WILDLIFE SANCTUARIES IN INDIA

- **Ranthambore Wildlife Sanctuary** in Rajasthan is spread over 392 sq.kms and located just 130 kms away from Jaipur. The deciduous forests of Ranthambore provide great opportunity to observe wildlife viewing of the tiger. Tourists can spot other animals like sambar, chital and panthers. Early morning and late afternoon safaris take tourists to possible spots where tiger and some of its cubs may cross their path.
- One of India's prime destinations for spotting the wild at their natural habitat is the **Corbett National Park** located at the foothills of Himalayas in Uttarakhand. Rare flora and fauna make it the wildlife hub of India. Corbett Park gives endless possibilities of interacting with the wild animals, so tourists come and connect with these magnificent creatures and discover a unique bond they share with nature.
- Sheltered in the Vindhya Ranges of Madhya Pradesh, the **Bandhavgarh National Park** was the original home of the precious white tigers where they were first sighted in Rewa. The lush greens of this wild paradise are spread across 437 sq. kms of land. There is a lot for the wildlife enthusiasts who can look forward to. Nilgai, Chinkara and wild boars are amongst those easily sighted. Spotting a fox could be tricky. Since the park boasts of a healthy population of tigers there are extremely favourable chances of seeing them.
- Perched high on the Western Ghats in God's own country Kerala has the picturesque **Periyar National Park** and tiger reserve. The park is widely known for the large herds of Indian elephants which thrive on the Periyar River nestled in the dense forests of the Cardamom Hills.



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- **Kaziranga National Park** in Assam is a haven for the wild. It is the habitat of the one horned rhinoceros, a paradise for wild elephants and water buffalos, a prominent tiger reserve and a world heritage site. Hog deer, sloth bears, capped langurs and some of the largest pythons in the world can be found here. One can probably see the Gigantic Dolphins when the rivers are in spate.
- Enshrined in the swamped mangroves at the tip of Bengal is the kingdom of Royal Bengal Tigers known as **Sunderbans National Park**. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Sunderbans are spread over a massive area of 4264 sq kms, disappearing towards the south into the sea. The swamps help tourists to locate the striped beasts seen resting in the estuarine mangroves, escaping the scorching heat. Tourists can also see snakes, crocodiles, fishing cats and other marine species.
- One of India's best tiger reserves, the **Kanha National Park** is in the valleys of Banjar and Halon in Madhya Pradesh. Wildlife lovers from all corners of the world flock to Kanha to catch a glimpse of its tigers, spotted deer and wolves.
- The **Mudumalai National Park** is a passage to its neighbouring wildlife reserves situated at the crossroads of Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka in the north west of the Nilgiri. It has a large variety of fauna and an interesting mix of flora with tropical green forests in one corner and dry deciduous in the other. Tourists can enjoy exciting safari at Mudumalai. Animals found here are sambhar, chitales, wild boars, primates and elephants along with the exclusive tigers.
- The last preserve of the Asiatic Lion, **Gir Wildlife Sanctuary** is on the brink of peninsular Gujarat in the south western belt of dry deciduous forests. One of India's prime wildlife attractions, Gir is a famous hub for the big cats, which includes lions as well as leopards. In fact, Gir has the largest number of leopards in the country. The sanctuary's water are known to be infested with numerous crocodiles.
- **Keoladeo** is in Rajasthan and has many varieties of birds. Formerly a duck hunting reserve of the Maharajas, it has now become one of the largest areas for migratory birds. Tourists enjoy the famous Siberian Crane, Warblers, and Babbler, Red Kite, Vulture and Sociable Lapwing among others. Lush green lands and lovely lakes, makes it a treat for tourists to see and enjoy.

### 12.4.1 Famous Bird Sanctuaries of India : Home to over 1200 species of birds

India is a home for many species of local as well as migrant birds. Bird sanctuaries in India are popular among bird watchers. Some of the local beautiful birds are Peacock, Great Indian Bustard, Indian Horn-bill, Kingfishers and Indian Eagle “Garuda”, a Sacred Bird of Hindus. The Great Indian Horn-bill is the largest amongst all the horn-bills found in the forests of India. Kulik (Raiganj) Bird Sanctuary is one of the largest bird sanctuaries in Asia. Nawabganj is an ideal tourist destination for twitching and bird watching in India. Twitching is referred to those who travel long distances to see rare birds.

- **Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary** in Rajasthan is one of the most famous bird sanctuaries in India. It is also known as Keoladeo Ghana National Park. Thousands of rare and highly endangered birds come here during the winter season. During winter season it is the most wanted site by the bird watchers who flock over here to see some of the most exotic birds in the world.
- **Sultanpur Bird Sanctuary** is home for several colourful winged migratory bird species who visited India from north of the Himalayas.
- The **Salim Ali bird Sanctuary** is home to many varieties of local and migratory birds, situated in Chorao Island along the river Mondovi in Goa. Sparrows, beautiful peafowl, parrots, pelican, Indian giant squirrel and other rare species of fauna can be spotted here.
- **Kumarakom Bird Sanctuary** also known as Vembanad bird sanctuary is situated in Kerala. It offers a home to a large number of migratory birds like flycatcher, teal, Siberian stork, crane, parrots and wood beetle. Riding on a houseboat is the best way for bird watching in Kerala. Other bird sanctuaries in Kerala are Mangalavanam and Thattekkad bird sanctuaries, situated on the banks of the Periyar River and famous for some of the rarest species of birds and other unique fauna.
- **Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary** is situated on the banks of the Kaveri river in Karnataka. The exotic migratory birds like light Ibis, egret, partridge, heron, river tern, snake bird, and stone plougher are a major tourist attraction. It is located about 20 kilometres from the famous Brindavan garden which lies adjoining the Krishnarajasagara dam.
- The **Vedanthangal Bird Sanctuary** in Tamil Nadu is the oldest bird sanctuary in India. The Vedanthangal lake region attracts a variety of birds such as pintail, garganey, grey wagtail, blue-winged teal, common sandpiper. One sixth of landmass of Tamil Nadu is covered with forests, which is paradise for animal lovers and bird watchers. Kunthakulam bird sanctuary



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and Pulicat lake bird sanctuary are also famous for bird watching situated on the border of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

- **Kaundinya Bird Sanctuary** is one of the best bird sanctuaries in India, situated near Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh. The habitat has rugged high hills and deep valleys and Kaigal and Kaundinya are two beautiful streams, which flow through the sanctuary. Kaundinya sanctuary offers the best of wildlife and bird watching in India. Kolleru lake bird sanctuary also brings a variety of migratory birds to its largest fresh water Kolleru Lake.
- **Chilka Lake Bird sanctuary** located near Puri in Odisha is very popular among tourists. It is the most beautiful brackish water lake in Asia and famous for a rich variety of birds. Chilka Lake serves as a bird sanctuary and is the largest winter ground for migratory birds in India. It is also one of the best bird watching spots in India.
- In Maharashtra **Mayani Bird sanctuary**, attracts many migratory birds, such as flamingos from Siberia which come in large numbers. It is one of the most prominent and famous bird sanctuaries in India.
- **Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary** comprising a huge lake and ambient marshes, is situated in Ahmadabad, Gujarat. Nal Sarovar bird sanctuary is the largest wetland bird sanctuary in India, where one can spot flamingos, pelicans, spoonbills, avocets, coots, pintails, small cormorants, small grebes and shovellers. It is one of the busiest tourist spots in India.

### 12.5 HILL STATIONS: NATURAL TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

#### Popular Hill Stations in India

- **Shimla** used to be the summer capital of the British when they ruled India. Now it's the state capital of Himachal Pradesh. It is a cool, charming town enveloped by Oak, Pine and Rhododendron forests. It is famous for its colonial style buildings and historic railway. The old Christ Church, with its beautiful stained glass windows, mesmerizing views from Scandal Point, and the Viceregal Lodge are the landmarks of this town. It is also interesting to watch the sunrise and sunset from the Observatory Hill.
- **Manali**, with its soothing backdrop of the Himalayas, offers a blend of tranquility and adventure that makes it one of northern India's most popular destinations. Located in the Kullu Valley of Himachal Pradesh, it's a magical place bordered by cool pine forests and the raging Beas river.
- **Darjeeling**, in West Bengal, is also famous for its lush tea gardens and for a stunning view of Mount Kanchenjunga, the world's third highest peak. The town is dotted with monasteries, botanical gardens and a zoo. Darjeeling

is a wonderful place to walk around, and explore the tea estates, villages, and markets.

- The hill station of **Nainital**, in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand, is a popular summer retreat. It has the emerald coloured Naini Lake and many forests. Long walks in the forests and boating in the Naini Lake are major tourist attractions.
- **Mussoorie**, near Dehradun in Uttarakhand, is a popular weekend destination for North Indians. It has a lot of facilities developed especially for tourists. Cable car to Gun Hill, beautiful nature walk along Camel's Back Road, Kempty Falls, or horse ride to Lal Tibba which is the highest peak in Mussoorie are beautiful places. The mighty Himalayas can also be seen from here.
- **Srinagar**, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, has lovely lakes and beautiful houseboats and Shikaras. The gardens have a distinctly Mughal influence, as they were created by the Mughal emperors. Srinagar also has the largest Tulip garden in Asia while adventure lovers come here for snow skiing in winter.
- **Munnar**, in Kerala, is renowned for its sprawling tea plantations. The Kundale Tea Plantations, which surrounds a picturesque lake, offers the best opportunity to see the tea being picked and processed. The area is blessed with the natural beauty of winding lanes, misty hills, and forests full of exotic plants and wildlife. It is interesting to see enthusiasts trek to Anamudi, the highest peak in South India, explore Eravikulam National Park, or go rock climbing and paragliding. No wonder, tourists like to visit Munnar whenever an opportunity comes their way.
- **Ooty** in Tamil Nadu is a soothing place to escape the summer heat for which you can take the scenic toy train from Metupalaiyam. Ooty's most popular attractions include the 22 hectare Government Botanical Gardens where a flower show is held there every May as part of the Summer Festival, boating on Ooty Lake, and climbing Dodabetta Peak for an excellent view of the Nilgiri hills.
- **Kodaikanal** is nestled 120 kilometers from Madurai in the Palani Hills of Tamil Nadu. It has a large variety of flora and fauna. Over here, you can see orchards of pear trees, charming buildings with gabled roofs. Herbs and aromatherapy oils are some of the most interesting things to buy in Kodaikanal, with the eucalyptus oils being particularly popular.
- **Mount Abu**, situated at an altitude of 1220 m above the sea level is the highest point on the Aravalli Ranges. Mount Abu literally means the 'Hill



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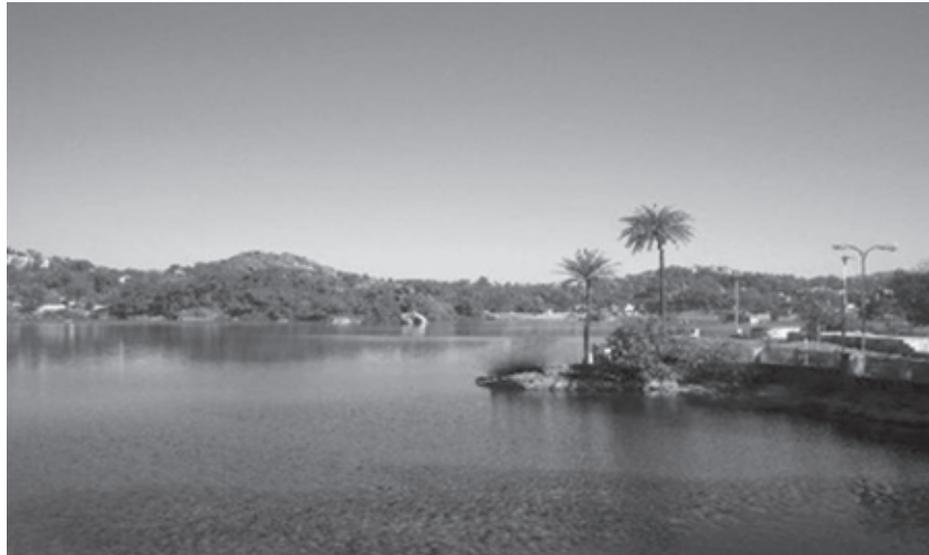


#### Notes

### Natural Tourist Attractions in India

of Wisdom' and is a green oasis located in the lush green-forested hills. It is in direct contrast to the barren desert of Rajasthan and is the only hill station in Rajasthan.

In Mount Abu you will see the Dilwara Jain Temples which are the best examples of Jain architecture in India. The interiors of the temple are extravagantly carved on white marble. The Vimal Vasahi Temple and Tejpal Temple are the most remarkable among all. This hill station is also very famous for its Nakki Lake. An ancient temple dedicated to goddess Durga, Adhar Devi Temple, is located 3 kms to the north of Mount Abu. It is built in a natural crack in a rock.



**Figure 12.6: Mount Abu Hill Station**

The neighbouring areas of Mount Abu also have interesting tourist places like the Guru Shikhar (15 km), Achaleshwar Mahadev Temple (11 km), Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary (8 km), Brahma Kumaris Spiritual University and Museum. Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary is home to species of birds, panthers, sambhars and wild boars.

- **Khandala** is a hill station in the Western Ghats in the state of Maharashtra. It is on the road link between the Deccan Plateau and the Konkan plain. Lonavala is set amongst the slopes of the Sahyadri mountain range and has become famous because of nature's gift of beautiful valleys, hills, milky waterfalls, lush greenery, and pleasant cool winds. Major attractions are Kune Falls, Tiger's Leap, Duke's Nose, Shivaji Park, Rajmachi Park, Ryewood, Lohagad Darshan and Amruntanjan point.

**Table 12.2 Some other Popular Hill Stations in India**

State	Where	Hill Station
Andhra Pradesh	Araku Valley	Horsley Hills
Gujarat	Saputara	Wilson Hills
Himachal Pradesh	Chail	Dharamsala, Dalhousie, Kasauli, Manali, Shimla, Kufri, Palampur
Jammu & Kashmir		Srinagar, Pahalgam, Gulmarg, Leh
Karnataka		Kudremukh, Kemmangundi, Madikeri, Nandi Hills, Chikkamagaluru
Kerala		Munnar, Devikulam, Nelliampathi, Ponmudi, Vythiri, Vagamon
Madhya Pradesh		Pachmarhi
Maharashtra		Lonavla, Amboli, Chikhaldara, Khandala, Lavasa, Mahabaleshwar, Matheran, Panchgani, Toranmal
Meghalaya		Nohkalikai
Odisha		Daringbadi
Rajasthan		Mount Abu
Sikkim		Gangtok, Pelling, Lachung
Tamil Nadu		Ooty, Coonoor, Kodaikanal
Uttarakhand		Nainital, Mussoorie, Almora, Auli, Kausani, Ranikhet
West Bengal		Kalimpong, Kurseong



**Notes**



**Figure 12.7: A Hill Station**

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Notes

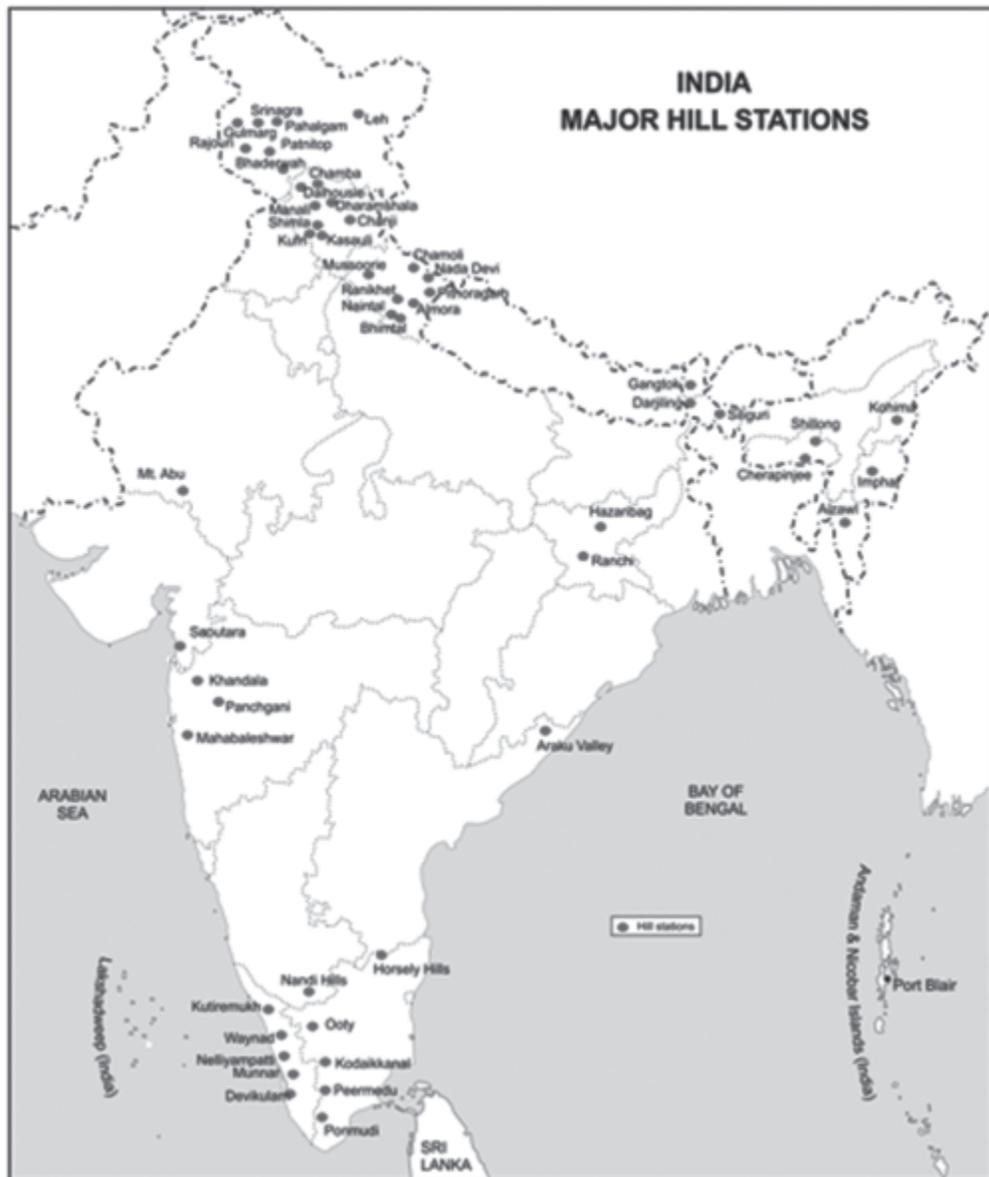


Figure 12.8: Hill Stations in India



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 12.3

1. Define Wildlife Sanctuary and Bird Sanctuary.
2. Why do tourists visit Wildlife and Bird Sanctuaries?
3. Why is Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary famous?



### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- India is divided into four major physiographic divisions. They are (a) Northern Mountains, (b) Great Northern Plains, (c) Peninsular Plateau and (d) Coastal Plains and Islands. All of them are very important for tourism perspectives.
- They provide great diversity in the country. The diversity may be seen as major attractions for tourism.
- The diversity is in terms of physiography, climate, culture and tradition, historical and cultural heritage. In fact, the greater diversity of the country provides immense opportunities for tourists to visit different places.
- Some areas are very suitable for scenic beauty and good for adventure tourism.
- Nature tourism is also very popular. One example may be the Himalayas. The desert of Rajasthan is also very rich in culture and tradition.
- The coastal area is very rich in beach tourism. Tourists from the country and outside the country prefer to visit. In the same way the islands are also very popular.
- The hills and the slope of the Himalayas are also great in demand as hill-stations. Therefore, the greater diversity of the country provides greater opportunity for tourism. Hence, the proper accelerating policy of the government is encouraging tourism greatly in the country.



Notes



### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Describe the different geographic regions of India.
2. How physiography of India promotes the tourism activities?
3. Write an account on tourist centers in India.



### ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 12.1

- 1 Deccan plateau is divided into three parts, Deccan Trap, Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats.

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#### Notes

### Natural Tourist Attractions in India

It covers an area of 7 lakhs 59 km. Its average height ranges from 500 meter to 1000 meter.

2. The Western Ghats
3. Andaman Nicobar is rocky whereas Lakshadweep is made up of coral. Andaman has large sized islands with big numbers whereas Lakshadweep islands are smaller in size and less numbers.

#### 12.2

1. There are many tourist circuits in India. The tourists used to visit the places in the routes. Those places are very important in terms of tourism. They are made/ organized by tour operators. Because of their greater demand?
2. There are many hill stations in north India. Important among them are: – Shimla, Kullu, Manali, Mussoorie, Nainital, Darjeeling, Mt. Abu, Dharamshala.
3. Three types – Aerial, Water and Land
  - (a) Aerial Adventure tourism – Parachuting and Paragliding
  - (b) Water Adventure tourism – Rafting and water skiing
  - (c) Land Adventure tourism – Rock climbing and angling

#### 12.3

1. Wildlife Sanctuary is a planned area for preservation of wildlife from human interference. Bird Sanctuary is a special type of wildlife sanctuary for conservation of variety of bird species in their natural habitat.
2. Tourists are keen to visit the natural behaviour of the animals and birds.
3. Nal Sarovar Bird Sanctuary is famous because it is the largest wetland bird sanctuary and busiest tourist spot in India.

**13**

# GROWTH AND PATTERNS OF TOURISM IN INDIA



Notes

Travel and tourism are a part of Indian tradition and culture. Tourism industry occupies a unique place as it is one of the major emerging segments of our economy. It brings huge foreign exchange and generates employment. This leads to infrastructure development. In the era of globalisation, the travel and tourism activities have increased significantly. United Nation's World Tourism Organisation has forecasted that international tourism would continue to grow at an average annual rate of 4%. India has made a unique place on world tourism map because of its rich natural and cultural diversity. In India, tourism is the third largest industry in which about ten million people are employed directly or indirectly. The present chapter is an attempt to describe the growth and patterns of domestic as well as international tourism in India.

**OBJECTIVES**

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- differentiate between domestic and international tourists;
- describe the meaning and factors affecting the growth of tourism;
- identify the role of tourist attractions in tourism promotion;
- explain the growth of foreign tourist arrivals in India;
- illustrate the trend of foreign tourist arrivals in India;
- describe the growth and pattern of domestic tourism;
- discuss the earnings from the tourism industry and
- highlight the government initiatives for tourism promotion.

### 13.1 TOURIST

We have studied that there is a clear cut difference between visitors and tourists. A person is not considered as an international tourist when he/ she goes and gets any job in the destination country. For example, like diplomats or armed forces do not qualify as international tourists. So, a tourist visits for various purposes which include recreation, holiday, leisure, health, study, religious faith, business, meeting with friends and relatives without any remunerative job.

There are two levels of tourists - Domestic and International Tourist:

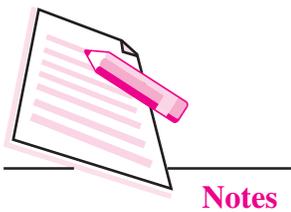
**International Tourist** - A person visiting India on a foreign passport, stays at least 24 hours in India. The purpose of journey may be leisure, recreation, holiday, health, study, religious belief, sport, business, family, mission and meeting. But that person is not taking any remunerative assignment is called an international tourist.

**Domestic Tourist** - A person who travels within the country to a place other than his/her usual place of residence or work and stays in any accommodation for not less than 24 hours is known as a domestic tourist. The purpose should be holiday, leisure, sports, pilgrimage, religious belief, study, health and social functions. But, persons visiting their home town or native place on leave or a short visit for meeting relatives and friends, attending social and religious functions are not considered as tourist.

### 13.2 TOURIST ATTRACTIONS

Tourism has been an integral part of our culture and tradition. India is a country known for its friendly treatment to all visitors, no matter where they come from. Its visitor-friendly traditions, varied life styles, cultural heritage, colourful fairs and festivals are attractions for the tourists. From ancient time, the rulers, in different parts of India, built luxurious palaces, wonderful temples, evergreen gardens, high forts and tombs. The other attractions include beautiful beaches, wildlife, national parks, sanctuaries, snow cover, rivers, mountain peaks, technological parks, science museums and centres of pilgrimage. Heritage trains, yoga, ayurveda, siddha and natural health resorts also attract tourists in great numbers.

The Indian handicrafts, particularly jewellery, carpets, leather goods, ivory and brass work are the main shopping items for foreign tourists. They spend nearly 40% of their money on shopping of such items. The beauty of the cultural heritage and natural sites makes India a tourist paradise. We always give high respect to our guests. That is why, we developed a cultural tradition where *Atithi Devo Bhava* (Guest is God) are bywords of our social behaviour. The first Prime



Minister of India, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said, “Welcome as a Tourist and send them back as a Friend”.

India is very rich in natural and cultural landscape for tourism. Tourism in India can be divided into two major categories - Natural and Cultural.

### Natural Landscapes Include

Mountain tourism, Island tourism, Desert tourism, Coastal tourism, Lacustrine tourism, Wildlife tourism, Adventure tourism.

### Cultural tourism Includes

Religious tourism, Historical tourism, Traditional tourism, Health tourism, Sports tourism, Rural tourism.

All these types of tourism attract more and more domestic and international tourists from different corners.

## 13.3 EMERGING DIMENSIONS IN TOURISM

Apart from traditional tourism, new type of tourism activities are being created. Emerging dimensions in Indian tourism are :

- Health tourism
- Spiritual tourism
- Adventure tourism
- Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) tourism
- Rural tourism
- Sustainable tourism

Health tourism in India provides world class treatment at low cost. It includes the Indian system of medicine like ayurveda, naturopathy, unani, sidha and allopathy. Indian medical tourism attracts many tourists from the developed world like US, Europe and Middle East regions where medical treatment remains very costly.

India is the centre of spiritualism. It is the confluence of different religions: Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam, Christianity, Buddhism and Jainism. The followers of religious belief have built many attractive temples, mosques, monasteries and churches in different parts of the country. These religious places are attracting a huge number of domestic and international tourists in India. Adventure tourism



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### Growth and Patterns of Tourism in India

and nature tourism is gaining popularity. The geographical diversity makes India as a good place for adventurers. Maximum adventure activities are taking place in the areas of higher altitude.

Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) tourism is a fast emerging sector particularly after the liberalisation of the Indian economy since 1991. Now, Indian tourism industry is well - equipped with all facilities and infrastructure to welcome business tourists. Such facilities and infrastructure are still being improved and investments are made for the same.

Rural tourism involves interaction of tourists with local people and their cultural life.

Sustainable tourism meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their needs. It also includes the minimum impact of tourist activities on environment.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 13.1

1. Differentiate between domestic and international tourists.
2. Explain the natural and cultural landscape tourism.
3. Describe the MICE tourism.

### 13.4 GROWTH OF TOURISM

Tourism plays an important role in the social and economic development of the country. Tourism is very dynamic in nature. It changes in spatial and temporal contexts. The growth of tourism in any area or region depends upon a number of reasons. Growth of tourism may be positive or negative. A positive growth takes place when there is addition in number of tourists. A negative growth occurs when there is decrease in the number of tourist as compared to the past years. There are a number of factors like socio - economic, political, natural, epidemics etc. which influence tourism influx.

Travel and tourism activities have been taking place since the early periods of human civilisation. It has grown over the time with ups and down. During the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there was a slow growth of international tourism in India. Rapid growth of tourism activities and the movement of international tourists in India has increased significantly since the second half of the twentieth century. It has happened so because of India's exposure to the developed countries. It has its genesis in the development of infrastructures in tourism sector.

Tourism in India has grown substantially since the beginning of 1990's. The sound financial health and spare time of tourists from rich countries for holidaying, sight seeing, business, meetings etc. have led to the growth of the tourism industry. Good transport, accessibility, communication, accommodation etc are main reasons for increasing travel and tourism in recent decades. After 1980's tourism activity gained momentum in India. In 1990, South Asia had recorded high growth in tourist arrival and India is a major tourist destination among a the South Asian nations. It captures more than half of the tourist arrivals and about 75% of the tourist receipts of South Asia.

There are a number of criteria to measure the tourism index of any country. Out of them, two are very important. The first one is International Tourist Arrival and second is tourism receipts. We can understand the growth of tourism in India by grouping the tourists into two categories (a) foreign tourist arrivals (FTAs) and (b) domestic tourist arrivals (DTAs).

### 13.5 FACTORS AFFECTING TOURISM

There are a number of factors which are responsible for promoting the travel and tourism. Growth in tourism infrastructure facilities and modern services have made life easier and promoted the travel more. Improvement in transport, tremendous change in information technology and communication have accelerated the movement of people at the destination areas. Some important factors responsible for the growth of tourism in any area are

- Geographical
- Cultural Event
- Safety and Security
- Economic condition
- Facilities and Services
- Government Policies

#### (i) Geographical

Geographical conditions affect the flow of tourists. Generally tourists of hot plain area go to hill stations in summer for cooler and pleasant climate. Tourists of cold areas go to hot areas in the winter season. Location, climate, landscape and geographical diversity of a region attracts the tourists in large numbers. Keeping in mind the choice of tourists, one can estimate the tourist arrival in various seasons.



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### (ii) Cultural Event

Some social activities like festivals, fair, dances, meetings, local customs and rituals attract the tourists in large numbers. In West Bengal, Durga Pooja, Holi and Diwali in North India, Carnival in Goa, Dandiya in Gujarat, Desert Festival in Rajasthan, Surajkund Mela in Haryana, Onam in Kerala etc. are few important events which large a number of tourists.

### (iii) Safety and Security

Safety and security influence the tourist growth greatly. If there is any mishap tragedy with any tourist, that incidence decreases the inflow of tourists. Each and every tourist wants his/her safety first. In the Kashmir valley, tourism has gone down significantly particularly after 1985 due to terrorist activities and tourist has inflow turned towards other states like Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand etc.

### (iv) Economic condition

The economic conditions of people also affect tourism. People having high income generally travel more as compared to the lower class, because they have high purchasing power. They can spend much money on travel and tourism activities.

### (v) Facilities and Services

There are various infrastructural facilities and services which determine the tourist traffic tremendously. These include accommodation, hotel, accessibility, transport, banking services, communication, bookings, guides, recreational activities etc. The availability and quality of these services attracts or discourages the tourist, to visit any area.

### (vi) Government Policies

Government policies affect the tourist inflow to a greater extent. For promoting tourism in the country, the government can give some subsidy, packages, liberal visa policy and travel regulations. Some countries do not require any visa for tourists, they grant it on arrival while certain nations have very tough conditions for getting it. In order to promote tourism, The Government of India conduct some shows to attract tourist from various countries by demonstrating tourist attractions.

## 13.6 FOREIGN TOURIST ARRIVALS

India remained as a good attraction for international tourist as it provides cheap with the best tourist facilities. The total number of foreign tourist arrivals in India

were merely 16829 in 1951. It increased to 1.14 millions in 1981 and 6.30 millions in 2011. So, total 6.13 million foreign tourists has increased during the last 60 years. A continuously positive increase of foreign tourist arrivals was recorded in Indian tourism industry during 1951- 2011. The decadal as well as annual growth rate of tourists arriving in India for different periods during 1951 to 2010 can very well be seen from the last two columns of Table 13.1.

**Table 13.1: Foreign Tourist Arrival in India from 1951-2010**

Year	Arrivals	Absolute Increase in Number	Decadal Growth Rate (%)	Annual Growth Rate within Decade (%)
1951	16929	-	-	-
1960	123095	106266	631.4	63.14
1970	280821	157726	128.1	12.81
1980	1253694	972873	346.4	34.64
1990	1707158	453464	36.1	3.62
2000	2649378	942220	55.1	5.19
2010	5583746	2934368	110.7	11.07

**Source:** Calculated on the basis of data from the Ministry of Tourism

**Table 13.2: Foreign Tourist Arrivals in India (1997-2015)**

Year	Number (millions)	Percent
1997	5.50	9.3
1998	5.54	-0.7
1999	5.83	5.3
2000	5.89	1.1
2001	5.44	-7.8
2002	5.16	-5.1
2003	6.71	30.1
2004	8.36	24.6
2005	9.95	19.0
2006	11.75	18.1
2007	13.27	12.9
2008	14.38	8.4
2009	14.37	-0.1
2010	17.91	24.6
2011	19.50	8.9
2012	18.26	-6.3
2013	19.95	9.2
2014	22.33	13.1
2015	23.33	4.4



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## Growth and Patterns of Tourism in India



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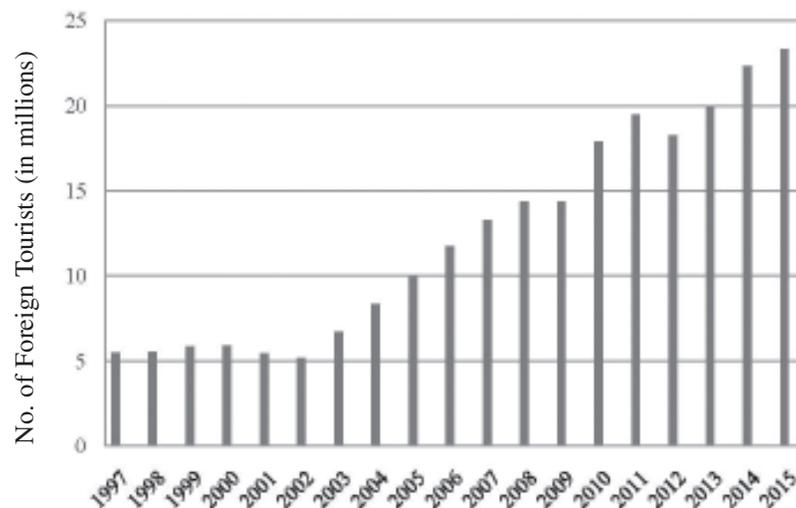


Figure 13.1: Trend of foreign tourists arrivals (1997-2015)

### 13.7 PATTERN OF FOREIGN TOURIST ARRIVALS

Foreign tourist arrivals in India are continuously increasing. The share of India in international tourist arrivals was only 0.40% in 1997. It increased to 0.64% in 2011. In 2011, total 6.31 million foreign tourists visited various tourist places in India. The ranking of India in world tourism improved from 54<sup>th</sup> in 2002 to 38 position in 2011. Further in 2015, it improved to the rank of 24. Following are the characteristics of the foreign tourist pattern.

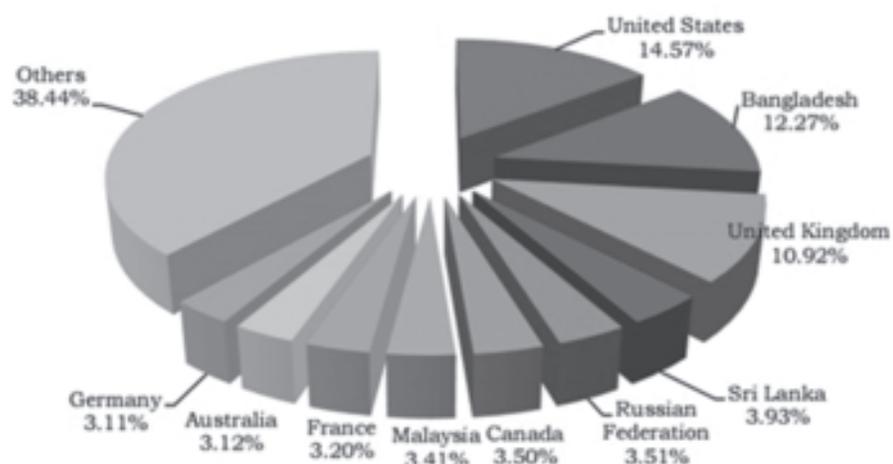


Figure 13.2: Percentage share of top 10 countries for PTAs in India in 2014

Now in 2014, the scenario of top ten countries has changed from 2011. Figure 13.2 shows the maximum percentage share of the United States of America (USA). It is 14.57% followed by Bangladesh 12.27%, the United Kingdom (UK) 10.92%, Sri Lanka 3.93%, Russian Federation 3.51%, Canada and Malaysia

3.50 and 3.41%, France, Australia and Germany 3.20%, 3.12% and 3.11% respectively. The category of other countries comprised 38.44%.

The India is a less expensive country. Therefore, the foreign tourists spend longer duration of time in India. It is good for us that foreign tourists stay here a little more than one month. It means, India is most favoured destination for foreign tourists.

**Table 13.3: Share of top 10 states /UTs of India in the number of foreign tourists' visits in 2014**

Rank	State/Union Territory	Number	Share in %
1	Tamil Nadu	4,657,630	20.6
2	Maharashtra	4,389,098	19.4
3	Uttar Pradesh	2,909,735	12.9
4	Delhi	2,319,046	10.3
5	Rajasthan	1,525,574	6.8
6	West Bengal	1,375,740	6.1
7	Kerala	923,366	4.1
8	Bihar	829,508	3.7
9	Karnataka	561,870	2.5
10	Haryana	547,367	2.4
	Total of top 10 states	20,038,934	88.8
	Others	2,528,716	11.2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22,567,650</b>	<b>100</b>

There is a possibility that from year to year the status of the states in respect to the number of tourists visits to the different states changes. For instance in 2011 Maharashtra was at the top with the foreign tourists in maximum number which comprised 24.7%. Tamil Nadu was in the second position. But now as the following table of 2014 shows, Tamil Nadu has replace Maharashtra and secured the first position. It got the share of 20.6%, while Maharashtra got 19.4%. However the minimum number of foreign tourists visited Haryana, comprised 2.4%.

**?** Do you know

Top ten countries are USA, Bangladesh, UK, Sri Lanka, Russian Federation, Canada, Malaysia, France, Australia and Germany together constitute 61.54% foreign tourists to India. In spite of more than six million foreign tourist visits to India per annum our share is below 1% of world tourists. Among all the monuments of the country, The Taj Mahal, the Qutub Minar and the Agra Fort are most popular tourists sites.



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### ACTIVITY 13.1

Find out the reasons, why the maximum number of foreign tourists come to India from North America and Europe and minimum from Africa.

### 13.8 GROWTH OF DOMESTIC TOURIST

India has a good history of travel and tourism activities. People of different sections of society visit various tourist places of the country. The domestic tourism enhanced due to a number of reasons. The significant reasons include increase in income levels, purchasing power and emergence of a dynamic middle class. There has been a continuous increase in domestic tourist. Total domestic tourist visiting the different states were 159.88 millions in 1997. It rose to 526.70 millions in 2007. It is an increase of 366.88 million in a span of ten years. It increased to 1431.97 million in 2015. It is a growth rate of 795.65% in domestic tourist during 1997 - 2015. It works out to be 41.88% increase per year. There has been a continuous increase in domestic tourist visits. The details of the same can be seen from the Table 13.4.

Table 13.4: Domestic tourist Arrivals in India (1997-2015)

Year	Number (million)	Percent
1997	159.88	14.1
1998	168.2	5.2
1999	190.67	13.4
2000	220.11	15.4
2001	236.47	7.4
2002	269.6	14.0
2003	309.04	14.6
2004	366.27	18.5
2005	392.04	7.0
2006	462.44	18.0
2007	526.7	13.9
2008	563.03	6.9
2009	668.8	18.8
2010	747.7	11.8
2011	864.53	15.6
2012	1045.5	20.9
2013	1142.53	9.3
2014	1282.8	12.9
2015	1431.97	11.6



Notes

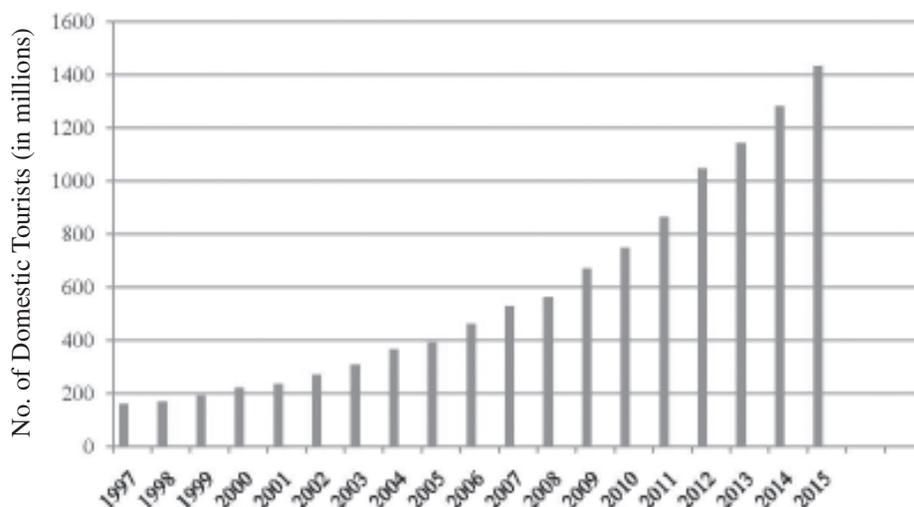


Figure: 13.3: Increase in domestic tourists: 1997-2015

The above (Fig. 13.3) graph shows the annual growth of domestic tourists during 1997-2015. The annual growth rate during year 1997-2015 was 41.88%. It clearly indicates the increase of annual growth rate of domestic tourists. The growth of domestic tourism has witnessed continuous increase with slight ups and downs.

### PATTERNS OF DOMESTIC TOURIST

The patterns of domestic tourism is quite clear. Some of the states are very attractive in terms of domestic tourists arrivals. Important among them are Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh and many others.

Table 13.5: Share of top 10 States/UTs of India in number of domestic tourists in 2015

Rank	State/Union Territory	Number (in million)	Share in%
1.	Tamil Nadu	333.46	23.3
2.	Uttar Pradesh	204.89	14.3
3.	Andhra Pradesh	121.59	8.4
4.	Karnataka	119.86	8.4
5.	Maharashtra	103.40	7.2
6.	Telangana	94.52	6.6
7.	Madhya Pradesh	77.98	5.4
8.	West Bengal	70.19	4.9
9.	Gujarat	36.29	2.5
10.	Rajasthan	35.19	2.5
	Total of top 10 states	1197.37	83.6
	Others	234.61	16.4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1431.97</b>	<b>100.0</b>



Notes

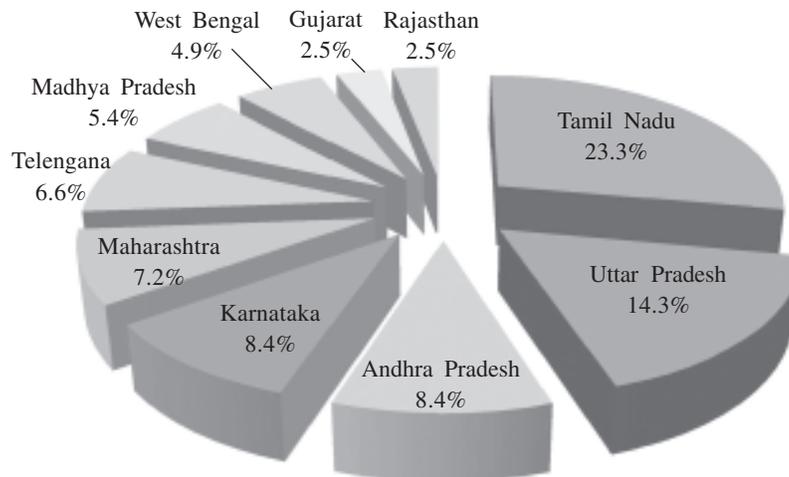
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### Growth and Patterns of Tourism in India



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**Figure: 13.4: Domestic tourist Percentage share of top 10 states/UTs of India : 2015**

Figure 13.4 provides the percentage shares and ranks of various States/UTs in domestic visits during 2015. The top 5 States in domestic tourist visits in 2014 were Tamil Nadu (327.6 million), Uttar Pradesh (182.8 million), Karnataka (118.3 million), Maharashtra (94.1 million) and Andhra Pradesh (93.3 million) with their respective shares being 25.4%, 14.2%, 9.2%, 7.3% and 7.2%. These 5 States accounted for about 63.26% of the total domestic tourist visits in the country.



### ACTIVITY 13.2

1. Visit any major tourist spot in your district/ state. Get the tourist profile data by collecting the information about their origin. Try to analyse the information in terms of domestic and foreign tourists. They even may be categorised according to different states or different countries.
2. Prepare a flow chart showing the international tourist arrivals in Delhi from different countries for medical treatment.

### 13.9 TOURISM EARNINGS

Tourism is a smokeless industry with a unique quality of earning foreign exchange. It continues to play an important role, as earning foreign exchange helps to maintain balance of trade. When a tourist spends some money to get tourist services and facilities, it is called tourist receipt. Before embarking on their destination they exchange local currency into the US dollar, Euro, UK sterling pound, Japanese yen, Australian or Singapore dollar etc. After arriving in the destination country they exchange the dollar etc. for the local currency.

In 2011, Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEEs) from the tourism were US\$ 16.56 billion as compared to US\$ 14.19 billion in 2010, getting an annual growth of 16.7%. Further Foreign Exchange earnings increased to \$1.662 billion in the month of March, 2015 as compared to \$1.674 billion in the month of March in 2014. The growth rate of FEEs touched 0.7%.

The share of India in the world tourism receipts was 0.64% in 1997 and 0.72% 2002 which has been increasing steadily since 2002, and has reached 1.61% during 2011.

The foreign exchange earnings during January - April 2013 was US \$ 6.878 billion and during the same period in 2012 it was US \$ 6.145 billion. It is an increase of US \$ 0.603 billion, it works out to be a growth of 9.61% in a span of four months. According to a market survey research, Indian tourism foreign exchange earning is expected to grow with a compound annual growth rate of 7.9% during 2010-2015.



### Do you know

About two-third (63.3%) domestic tourists are contributed by five states- Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.

## 13.10 GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES FOR PROMOTING TOURISM

Central and State governments are taking a number of initiatives for promoting tourism in the country. In India, a tourist branch was established under the Ministry of Transport in 1949. But in 1957 a separate Tourism Department and in 1958 Tourism Development Council came into existence. They helped a lot in increasing the tourism activities in the country. Development of tourism through planning began in a modest way in the second Five Year Plan. During the sixth Five Year Plan, Indian tourism grew greatly. The tourist inflow in the country continued to rise due to the steps taken by the Government of India from time to time.

A National Policy on tourism was announced in 1982 which set a new direction. The Government of India formulated policies to boost the tourism industry. The status of being an industry was given to it in the Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-90) by the Government of India. Later on in 1988, under the Chairmanship of Mohammad Yunus the National Committee on Tourism formulated a comprehensive plan for achieving a sustainable growth in tourism. The report



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of this committee is called the foundation stone of Indian tourism. In 1992, a National Action Plan was prepared which included a set of strategies for achieving a phenomenal growth in tourist arrival and foreign exchange.

In 1996, the National Strategy for Promotion of Tourism was drafted. On 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2000 the government declared as the Ministry of Tourism as a separate ministry and since then the government has been effectively functioning to promote systematic development of tourism in India. Tourism is streamlined and it has simplified the rules regarding the grant of approval and clearances to tour operators and travel agents. In the union budget 2010, the Government of India allocated more than Rs 1,000 Crore to the Ministry of Tourism for promoting tourism activities in the country.



Notes



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 13.2

1. Define the growth of tourism.
2. What is the pattern of foreign tourist arrivals in India?
3. Which state of India contributes to domestic tourism significantly?



### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- A tourist visits a place for various purposes which include recreation, holiday, leisure, health, study, religious belief, business, meeting with friends and relatives without any remunerative job.
- All types of tourism in India can be divided into two major categories Natural and Cultural landscapes based tourism.
- Tourism is very dynamic in nature which varies in spatial and temporal contexts.
- The growth of tourism in any area or region depends upon a number of reasons. There are a number of factors like socio-economic, political, natural, epidemics etc. which influence tourism influx.
- The growth in the domestic tourism is due to a number of reasons. But the most significant reasons include increase in income levels, purchasing power and emergence of a dynamic middle class.
- There has been a continuous increase in domestic tourist. Decadal growth rates during 2001 - 2011 were 260% whereas it was 432% during 1997-2011.

- Top ten states of the country account for about 85% of domestic tourists. About two-third (63.3%) domestic tourists come from only five states - Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Maharashtra.
- When a tourist spends money to get tourist services and facilities, it is called tourist receipt. In 2011, foreign exchange earnings from the tourism were US\$ 16.56 billion as compared to US\$ 14.19 billion in 2010, showing an annual growth of 16.7%.
- Central and State governments are taking a number of initiatives for promoting tourism in the country. Tourism is streamlined and it has simplified the rules regarding the grant of approval and clearances to tour operators and travel agents.
- Some important factors responsible for the growth of tourism in any area are – geographical, cultural, safety and security, economic, facilities and services and government policies.
- The total number of foreign tourist arrivals in India has continued to increase. There was a sharp increase from 1951 to 2014. In 1951, the number of foreign tourists was merely 16,829.
- It increased to 6.30 million in 2011.
- By the year of 2014, the number increased to 7.4 million. The Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report 2015 ranks India to 52nd position out of 141 countries.
- The Ministry of Tourism makes various national policies for the development and promotion of tourism in India. Further the Ministry also consults and collaborates with different stakeholders and the representatives of the private sector.
- Various efforts are being made to promote new forms of tourism likes rural, cruise, medical and eco-tourism. The Ministry also has the Incredible India campaign to promote Tourism in India.
- International tourists visiting India from top ten countries contribute 61% and these are USA, Bangladesh, UK, Sri Lanka, Russian Federation, Canada, Malaysia, France, Australia and Germany.
- The share of Indian States with regard to foreign tourists visits in 2014 are Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra , Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Rajasthan and least in Haryana which accounted for 2.4% of foreign tourists.



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### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Discuss the growth and patterns of International tourists visiting India.
2. Explain the factors affecting the growth of tourism.
3. Examine the steps taken by the Government of India for promoting tourism.



Notes



### ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 13.1

1. A person who travels within the country to a place other than his/her usual place of residence or work and stays in any accommodation for not less than 24 hours is a domestic tourist. International tourist is a person visiting India on a foreign passport, stays at least 24 hours in India. The purpose should be holiday, leisure, sports, pilgrimage, religious belief, education, health-medical and social functions. There should not be very kind of job undertaken and salary/remuneration received.
2. Natural Landscapes Include - Mountain tourism, Island tourism, Desert tourism, Coastal tourism, Lacustrine tourism, Wildlife tourism, Adventure tourism. Whereas Cultural Landscape includes - Religious tourism, Historical tourism, Traditional tourism, Health and medical tourism, Sport tourism and Rural tourism.
3. (MICE) means Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions . It is a fast emerging trend in the tourism sector; particularly, after the liberalisation of the Indian economy since 1991. Medical Tourism is also a fast emerging sector because of cheaper and efficient care.

#### 13.2

1. The Growth of tourism may be positive or negative. A positive growth takes place when there is addition in the number of tourists. A negative growth occurs when there is decrease in tourist number as compared to past years.
2. Out of the top ten tourist originating nations to India, the percentage share in FTAs in India during 2014 was the highest from USA with 14.57% followed by Bangladesh with 12.27%.
3. The state of Tamil Nadu significantly contributes in domestic tourism.

**14****GROWTH AND PATTERN OF  
TOURISM IN THE WORLD**

Notes

Tourism is very important in the economy of most of the countries in the world. It is a service industry as it has already been discussed before. It contributes in significant ways to local employment opportunity at the destination country. It maintains household craft industries and supports many families by providing livelihood. For the country, it helps in generating foreign currency. Tourism has been growing in a very big way in many areas of the world in recent times. The higher growth is observed in those areas which were not very significant a few decades before. They are the emerging economies of the world, and traditional tourist destinations are not performing in that way. The term ‘growth’ refers to increase or decrease in number or percent in comparison to the previous comparing period. The term ‘pattern’ refers to the sequential distribution of tourist activities over the earth. In this chapter, an attempt has been made to explain the growth and pattern of tourism in the world. It will also be described why it is happening so by giving reasons/ factors.

**OBJECTIVES**

After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

- identify various geographical units of the world;
- identify the factors affecting growth of tourism in the world;
- divide the world into different physiographic units;
- recognise the importance of different units for tourism;
- throw light on the future trend of tourism in the world;
- identify various attractions of tourism in the world;

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### Growth and Pattern of Tourism in the World

- see the growth of tourism in the world;
- recognise the pattern of tourism in the world; and
- highlight the government initiatives for tourism promotion.

#### 14.1 INTRODUCTION

Tourism is very closely associated with good financial status of the people, having spare time, interested in visiting different places along with the wish and ability to spend money for tourism purpose. Tourism is related to the visit by tourists and stay away from their usual residence for not more than a year for leisure, recreation, business, meetings, conferences and exhibitions etc. Tourists are also not supposed to take any working assignment for which they are paid. The travel and tourism is a volunteer activity but that may be supported by many incentives from the government, organisations like leave travel concession, reimbursement of amount spent on attending meetings or conferences etc. Here, the growth of tourism means the growing number of tourists from one period of time to another. Growth is not always increase, but even may be decrease. For example, the number of tourists may even be less in comparison to the base year. In this case, the growth is considered to be negative. Increase or decrease of the number of tourists depends upon different causes. Those causes are known as the contributory factors. The pattern of tourism tries to assess the tourism activities in the spatial context. So growth and pattern of tourism indicates the assessment of tourism activities in spatio-temporal context. This present pattern of tourism on the global perspectives is the outcome of different initiatives by the governments of various countries.

#### 14.2 FACTORS AFFECTING TOURISM IN THE WORLD

The tourism is directly linked with a number of factors. Some of the factors associated with tourists are:

- a. high income of the tourist
- b. paid holidays or holiday entitlement
- c. travel cost
- d. technology
- e. package providers/ tour operators
- f. update knowledge/ media
- g. growing middle class in developing countries
- h. rise of new destinations and increase in tourism investment.

Travel to the tourist destinations, accommodation, food and beverage, entertainment requires money. It is possible to take up the tourism activities only when the financial position of the tourists is sound. In other words, the per capita income of the country is the best way to find out/ guess the tourism activities. The people, belonging to countries where the per capita income is high, can afford more tourism activities. They go more for tourism from local level to global level. Government/ company/ corporate workers also get paid holidays or they are entitled to holidays. This is a sort of an incentive and promotes tourism. These people are more likely to go for tourism activities. Wherever this facility is available, the tourism is boosted and it is on rise.

Travel cost is one of the important factors to affect tourism. Moderate to low cost boosts the tourism activities whereas higher cost proves to be a hindrance in tourism activities. In general, this is an important determining factor, but for the very high rich people it may not be a big reason. It is also a reality that tourism is not contributed by the very rich segment of society. Hence, travel cost affects the tourism.

Technological advancement has brought the world very close. Much information is available through internet about various tourist places in the world. Many visuals are also available. They are very much important for the tourists for determining the destinations. Hence, information being a click away on internet has also played an important role in boosting the tourism.

Package providers/ tour operators are of great help to the tourists. They are making the tour itinerary well as per the demand of the tourists. They are basically facilitators and help the tourists for a hassle free touring. Wherever the tour package providers are available and for the areas they are working, the tourism activities are more prominent on the tourist map of the world.

Print and audio-visual media have also brought the world closer. They provide information about every part of the globe. The knowledge about the world also has a bearing on the growing trend of tourism in the world. The well documented and well known areas have seen greater number of tourists arrivals whereas the less known are not as popular with tourists.

The economic growth and development in the developing countries and the emergence of a section of society having good financial status is an additional boost for travel and tourism. It has been enhancing the possibility of tourist activities.

The new destinations in the world are coming up. More and more investments are made to develop the infrastructure in the region. Therefore, the tourism investment is promoting the industry.



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### 14.3 ATTRACTIONS FOR THE TOURIST AT DESTINATIONS IN THE WORLD

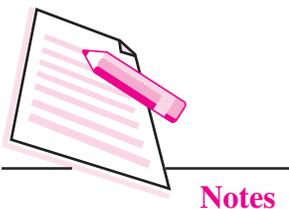
Different parts of the world have different types of attractions for the tourists. The developed and developing worlds are providing greater opportunities to the tourists in comparison to the under-developed world. In the beginning, tourism was mainly confined to the developed world but now the trend has changed and more and more tourism activities are taking place in the developing world. The major attractions can be grouped into cultural, natural, events, recreations and entertainment. They have several components which can be seen from the following table.

Table 14.1. Overview of Tourists Attractions

Cultural	Natural	Events	Recreational	Entertainment
Historical Sites	Landscapes	Mega-events	Sightseeing	Theme Parks
Archeological Sites	Seascapes	Community Events	Golf	Amusement Parks
Architecture	Parks	Festivals	Swimming	Casinos
Cuisine	Mountains	Religious Events	Tennis	Cinemas
Monuments	Islands, Beaches	Sports Events	Cricket	Shopping Facilities
Industrial Sites Art Centers	Flora	Trade Fairs	Hiking	Performing
Museums	Fauna	Exhibitions	Fast Track Car Racing	Sports Complexes
Ethnic	Coasts	Conferences	Snow Sports	Water Parks
Concerts	Caves	Meetings	World Cup	Rock Garden
Sports Events	Theater		Meals	Football
Others	Others	Others	Others	Others

#### 14.3.1 Cultural Attractions

Various cultural regions are very much in demand among tourists. These include historical sites, archeological sites, different architectural constructions of old buildings, monuments of historical importance. Museums are the collections of a wide range of items of historical and archeological evidences. They attract the tourists as many of them are interested in knowing about them. Organisation of concerts and interesting cultural and historical programmes in theaters are great attractions for tourism. Some places are famous for their historical cooking and food, hence, cuisine facilities attract the tourists.



Notes

### 14.3.2 Natural Attractions

Natural beautiful places are weakness for the tourists. They love to visit those places. Wherever naturally attractive landscapes, sea coasts, or mountains are found, they are excellent places for tourists. Hill stations, islands and beaches are also sought after places by tourists. Different kinds of parks and a wide array of flora and fauna are also of interest to the tourists.

### 14.3.3 Attractions due to Events

Several specific events are organised all over the world. Interested persons try to visit those events to get acquainted with or to get business from various corners of the world. They are called as mega events on certain themes like trade fairs. Apart from the sports persons, big sport events attracts millions of interested people from all over the globe. The Olympics, world soccer matches or the world cup cricket matches are some examples in this regard. Community events, fairs, festivals and religious aggregation attracts millions of people from national as well as international tourists. The Haj at Mecca and Medina, holy bath at the bank of the Ganga River during Maha Kumbh or at the time of solar and lunar eclipse are some of the examples. All over the world, conferences, meetings and corporate events are also bringing large number of people together.

### 14.3.4 Recreational Attractions

Many recreational attractions are there which magnetise the tourists. Important among them are sightseeing, sports such as golf, swimming, tennis, cricket, snow sports, football etc. Mountaineering, rock climbing, ice climbing, water rafting etc. are also of interest for some adventure tourists. Therefore, they promote travel and tourism activities.

### 14.3.5 Other Recreational Events

Travel and tourism is also promoted by providing various types of entertainment facilities. Some tourists' centers of well repute have amusement parks, casinos, shopping facilities. Sports complexes and sports events are also of great interest for tourists. These are some of the themes which are in great demand by tourists of domestic and international origin.



#### ACTIVITY 14.1

Prepare a list of places in your state, where international games are held and tourists of various countries visit in large number.



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### INTEXT QUESTIONS 14.1

1. List any five factors associated with tourists.
2. Write about any three natural attractions and three cultural attractions.
3. What do you understand by sport tourism?

### 14.4 SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM

The spatial distribution of tourism is the function of various environmental conditions. Some of the important factors are natural landscape, beautiful natural sites, accessibility and moderate climatic conditions. Apart from all these, man-made beautification and landscaping of the areas, dam construction and development of multipurpose projects, sculptured gardens, monuments, and famous sites are visited more by tourists. The important religious festivals are attended by a large number of tourists. Hence, it is quite evident, that tourism is popular where the above mentioned attractions are favourable for the tourists.

Some of the important tourist places of international repute are shown on the following map. Their distribution is concentrated more in economically developed countries of Europe, around the Mediterranean Sea and the USA. With the passage of time, the importance of other developing countries has increased as new tourists destinations. The growing income of the people is the prime reason for wide spread tourism activities in the world.



Figure 14.1: World Travel Map

### 14.5 WORLD'S TOP 10 TOURIST DESTINATIONS

United Nation World Tourism Organization (UNWTO, headquarter in Madrid, Spain) in its annual report of 2015 points out France to be the top most country globally with nearly 67,310,000 tourists arrivals from all parts of the world. France is followed by the US at the second number and on the tenth position is Hungary with 17,248 tourist's arrivals globally in 2015 (Table 14.2).

**Table 14.2: UNWTO top ten global tourist destinations in 2015**

S.No	Country	No. of tourists
1	France	67,310,000
2	United States	47,752,000
3	Spain	43,252,000
4	Italy	34,087,000
5	United Kingdom	25,515,000
6	China	23,770,000
7	Poland	19,520,000
8	Mexico	19,351,000
9	Canada	17,636,000
10	Hungary	17,248,000

The top destinations in 2014 by international visitor arrivals and their locations are shown on the Fig. 14.2. The details of numbers of expected overnight visitors are given in Table 14.2.



**Figure 14.2: World's top ten destinations 2014**



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Notes

### Growth and Pattern of Tourism in the World

In 2014, there were 1.135 million international tourist arrivals worldwide, with a growth of 4.3% as compared to 1.087 million in 2013. The following Table 14.3 shows the number of tourist arrivals in million between 2012-2014 and the change in percentage accordingly.

**Table 14.3: Growth of tourism in top ten countries**

Rank	Country	UNWTO Region <sup>[3]</sup>	International tourist arrivals (2014)	International tourist arrivals (2013)	Change (2013 to 2014) (%)	Change (2012 to 2013)(%)
1	France	Europe	83.7 million	83.6 million	▲ 0.1	▲ 2.0
2	United States	North America	74.8 million	70.0 million	▲ 6.8	▲ 5.0
3	Spain	Europe	65.0 million	60.7 million	▲ 7.1	▲ 5.6
4	China	Asia	55.6 million	55.5 million	▼ 0.1	▼ 3.5
5	Italy	Europe	48.6 million	47.7 million	▲ 1.8	▲ 2.9
6	Turkey	Europe	39.8 million	37.8 million	▲ 5.3	▲ 5.9
7	Germany	Europe	33.0 million	31.5 million	▲ 4.6	▲ 3.7
8	United Kingdom	Europe	32.6 million	31.1 million	▲ 5.0	▲ 6.1
9	Mexico	North America	29.8 million	28.4 million	▲ 5.3	▲ 10.2
10	Russia	Europe	29.1 million	24.2 million	▲ 20.5	▲ 3.2

### 14.6 GROWTH OF TOURISM IN THE WORLD

Tourism industry has flourished since the mid of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Prior to that, the activities of tourism were confined to only a limited pockets of the world. These pockets were concentrated in the developed countries. After 1950 the growth no. of pockets of the world of tourism was observed outside the developed world as well. New destinations grew and tourists started visiting those areas also. Apart from that, the growing economy of the less developed countries attracted tourists from those countries as well. This led to the growing areas for tourism as well as the increasing number of tourists all over the world.

The growth and development of travel and tourism is not uniformly distributed over the world. Some regions are very well developed and they have been developed since a long time. Some other regions are coming up in a big way. The increase in tourists visiting East Asia and the Pacific is very considerable. On an average, it is 13% per year followed by Middle East accounting 10%. Europe and America were the main tourists destinations before 2000, but recently their share has declined by 10% and 13%, respectively. Both regions accounted for 95% share of tourists in 1950. It declined to 82% by 1990 and 76% by 2000. It has happened because of the development of other areas as tourists destinations.

However to make the process of growth in brief, the following Table 14.4 shows continuous increasing number of tourists in the last five years.

Table 14.4: Tourism Growth in number of tourists from 2011-2015

S. No	Year	Total number of tourists
1	2011	983 million
2	2012	1,035 million
3	2013	1,087 million
4	2014	1,135 million
5	2015	1,184 million



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## 14.7 GROWTH OF TOURISM IN THE WORLD FOR FUTURE

Since 2010, international tourist arrivals has grown by 4.4% in 2015 to reach a total of 1,184 million in 2015, marking the sixth consecutive year of above-average growth with international arrivals increasing by 4% or more every year. Some 50 million more tourists (overnight visitors) travelled to international destinations around the world in 2015 than in 2014. Prospects for future years remain positive, with international tourist arrivals expected to grow by 4% worldwide.

International tourism reached new heights in 2015. The robust performance of the sector is contributing to economic growth and job creation in many parts of the world. It is thus necessary for countries to promote policies that foster the continuous growth of tourism, including travel facilitation, human resources development and sustainability.



### ACTIVITY 14.2

Collect the world tourist data for Asian countries. Try to find out the share of India in world tourism and find the reasons why India has a low share at the global level.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 14.2

1. Describe the factors affecting world tourism.
2. Discuss the events and recreational tourist attractions.
3. Discuss the growth of world tourism since 2011.

## 14.8 TOURIST ARRIVALS IN THE WORLD

It is quite evident that the tourists are highly concentrated in certain region of the world. They are more in the developed economies but their distribution is increasing in the emerging economies as well. The spatial distribution of those countries is still very large in the developed world if we compare the size of

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## Growth and Pattern of Tourism in the World

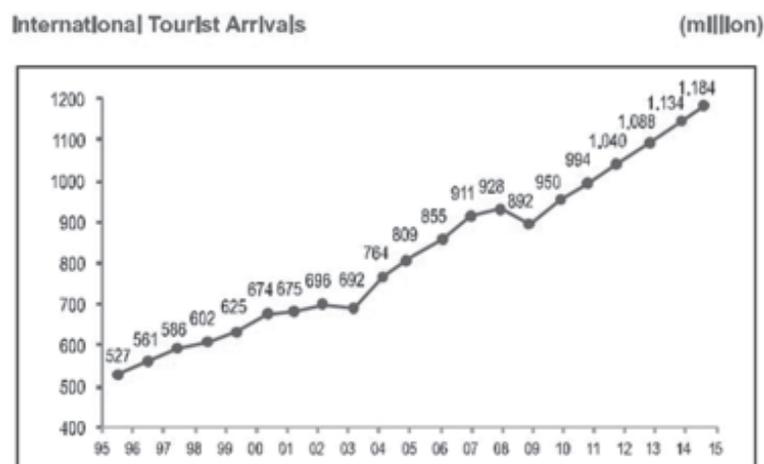
the countries and their population. Most of the developed economies have very small area as well as relatively low population. Since the people are well-off, they are sparing time and money for tourism activities. That is why, travel and tourism is more popular in those countries.

The exact number of tourists visiting different countries is shown on Figure 14.3. This map reveals that moderate and cool climatic regions of the world are very much collinear with the tourism activities.



Figure 14.3 Tourist Arrivals in various parts of world

Trend of international tourist arrivals is almost continuously on the rise. In a span of about seventeen years, the number of international tourist arrivals has risen to 1035 million in 2012 from 530 million in 1995. It is just a little less than double. International tourist arrivals grew by around 4% in 2012 in comparison to 2011. In 2012, the total international tourist arrivals rose to more than a billion for the first time in the history. Asia and the Pacific recorded the highest growth across the regions with 7% more.



Source: World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) ©

Figure14.4: Growth of international tourist arrivals

The above graph (Fig. 14.4) shows the long and steady growth of tourists' arrivals at the international level from 1995 to 2015. In 1995 it was around 527 million and shows the continuity in arrivals till 2002. There seems to be a decline towards 2003 but again the trend is towards an increase in 2004 which is 764 million. By 2010, we see that there is continuous increase of tourist arrivals and in 2015 end it grows to 1.184 million.

Share in International Tourist Arrivals, 2015

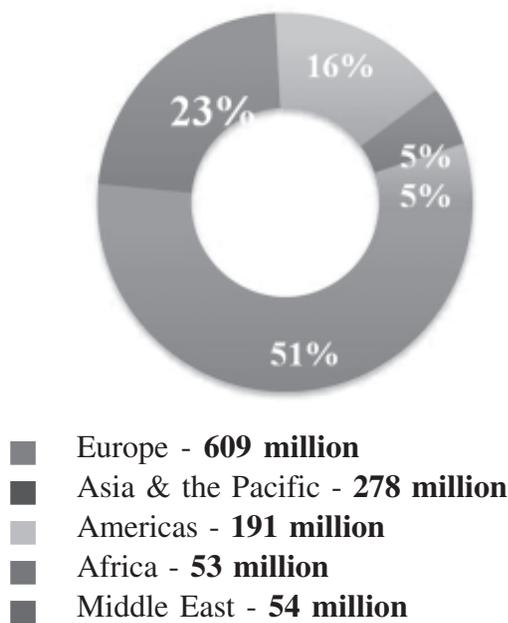


Figure 14.5

However the above chart shows the changing situation of growth in the five different regions in 2015. The maximum number (609 million) i.e. 51% of tourists visited Europe. After Europe, Asia and Pacific comprised (278 million) i.e. 23 Percent. The minimum number (53 million) i.e. 5% visited Africa.

### 14.9 TOURIST ARRIVALS AND RECEIPTS

Tourist arrivals means the number of persons who arrive at tourist center and get accommodation. Those people check in for at least a night stay. All accompanying persons are counted without any age limit. A child is counted as the number of tourists reaching the center, even if he/she is not charged for the stay. Hence, no age limit is applicable. Therefore, all people are counted and their number is known as the tourist arrivals.

International tourist receipts are expenditures on tourism activities by international inbound visitors. It includes all payments made to national tour and transport facilitators for international tourists. All payment made in the destination country



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is counted for any sort of goods and services they get instead. In another words, every sort of money used by international tourists is included in the receipt category, i.e. accommodation, transport within the destination country, food and beverage, entertainment, purchase of souvenirs, entry fees etc.

In Europe arrivals grew by 3%, while in Africa they were up by 2%. International tourism receipts reached US\$ 1245 billion worldwide in 2014, up from US\$ 1197 billion in 2013, corresponding to an increase of 3.7% in real terms (taking into account exchange rate fluctuations and inflation).

Receipts from international visitors spending on accommodation, food and drink, entertainment, shopping and other services and goods reached an estimated US\$ 1,245 billion (euro 937 billion) in 2014, an increase of 3.7% in real terms (taking into account exchange rate fluctuations and inflation). International tourist arrivals increased by 4.4% in 2014, reaching a total 1,135 million, up from 1,087 million in 2013.

Apart from international tourism receipts, tourism also generates export earnings through international passenger transport services (rendered to non-residents). The latter amounted to an estimated US\$ 221 billion in 2014, bringing total exports from international tourism up to US\$ 1.5 trillion, or US\$ 4 billion a day on average. International tourism receipts grew in all regions.

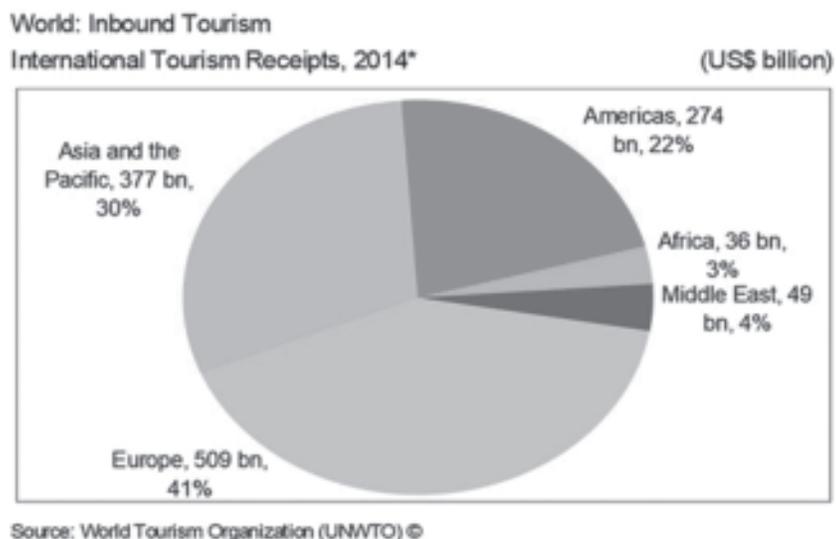


Figure:14.6

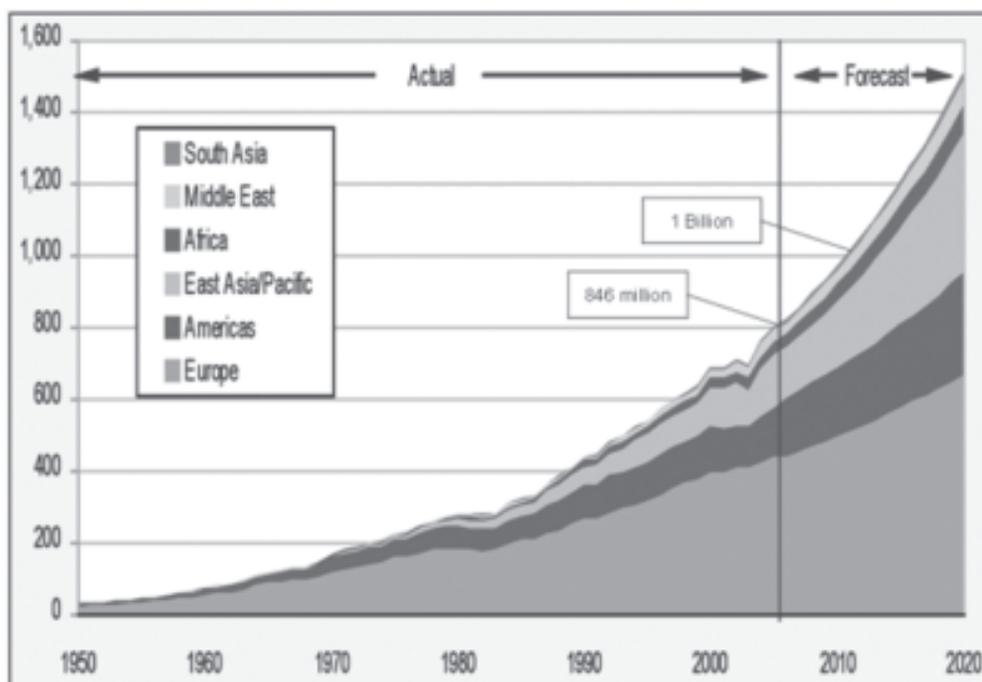
The above Fig. 14.6 clearly shows the share of international tourism receipts in 2014 in which Europe have largest share. Europe, which accounts for 41% of worldwide international tourism receipts, saw an increase in tourism earnings in absolute terms of US\$ 17 billion to US\$ 509 billion (euro 383 billion). Asia

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and the Pacific (30% share) saw an increase of US\$ 16 billion, reaching US\$ 377 billion (euro 284 bn). In the Americas (22% share), receipts increased by US\$ 10 billion to a total of US\$ 274 billion (euro 206 bn). In the Middle East (4% share), tourism receipts increased by an estimated US\$ 4 billion to US\$ 49 billion (euro 37 bn) and in Africa (3% share) by US\$ 1 billion to US\$ 36 billion (euro 27 bn).

## 14.10 WORLD TOURISM PROSPECTS

The growing trend of world tourism prospects is shown through the following illustration. It is showing the trends of different regions of the world since 1950 and a future projection is made for the year 2020. In the beginning of the period mentioned, the travel and tourism activities were not very much widespread. It was more so in the traditionally developed countries of the world. The growth in travel and tourism industry outside the developed world became perceptible since 1970. It was due to the rising socio economic status of the developing countries. This led to generate disposable income among middle and upper-middle class of the society. This was the boosting tonic for tourism activities which was taken up by those people. Since then the global trend of tourism has changed. Tourism got the vertical and horizontal expansion but it also declined the share of the developed world. On an average, the growth rate is around 4.5% per annum at the global scale.



Source: [www.world.tourism.org](http://www.world.tourism.org)

Figure 14.7. Projected Regional Tourism Growth in World (1950–2020)

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Some of the important points are:

- Europe is supposed to be the most favoured destinations with a projected number of about 717 million tourists by the year 2020. It is believed that it would grow at an average rate of 3.1%.
- East Asia and the Pacific is expected to grow by 6.5% per year. Its share would be about 25% of the world and it would hold the second largest position replacing the Americas.
- Africa and the Middle East are anticipated to be on the higher side of their tourist activities. They are supposed to perform the growth of over 7% per year.
- South Asia is very low in tourism, but it is supposed to be higher by 2020 on account of growing tourism. Its share would reach to about 19 million in 2020 which is about five times greater than 1995.

**Table 14.5 Projected Tourist Arrivals in World.**

World Regions	Base year	Forecasts		Market share (%) growth rate (%)		Average annual
	1995	2010	2020	1995	2020	1995-2020
	(Million tourists)					
World	565	1006	1561	100	100	4.1
Africa	20	47	77	3.6	5.0	5.5
Americas	110	190	282	19.3	18.1	3.8
East Asia and the Pacific	81	195	397	14.4	25.4	6.5
Europe	336	527	717	59.8	45.9	3.1
Middle East	14	36	69	2.2	4.4	6.7
South Asia	4	11	19	0.7	1.2	6.2



#### Do you know

World Tourism Day is celebrated each year on 27 September. Its main aim is to foster awareness among international community about the importance of tourism.

Every year, UNWTO invites all interested parties to take part on 27 September each year in the special celebrations taking place in their respective country or holiday destination.



### INTEXT QUESTIONS 14.3

1. Write about the top ten countries contributing in world tourism.
2. Which region of world share maximum international tourism receipts?
3. How the share of developing countries enhanced in international tourism?



### WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNT

- The distribution of growth and pattern of tourism in the world is not uniformed. Since long time, tourism had been the affairs of developed nations and their well-off people. But since a few decade back, the economic growth has taken place in the developing nation also.
- With the improvement of economic status of the people of larger segment of society in different corners of the globe, the growth and pattern of tourism has altered and it is still changing.
- Tourism has reached to larger destinations of the world, as well as people from different parts of the world are also associated with it. It is happening because of more income and purchasing power of the people, less travel cost, growing knowledge of the world and promotion from the government side as well.
- Different types of attractions have been one of the very dominant factors for increasing tourism activities in the World since 1950.
- There is long and steady growth of tourists' arrivals at international level. From 1995 it was around 527 million and shows the continuity in arrivals till 2002.,there seems to decline towards 2003 but again the trend is towards an increase in 2004 which i s 764 million. By 2010, we see that there is continuous increase of tourist arrivals and in 2015 it grows to 1.184 million.
- The spatial horizon of the tourism has increased from traditional to non-traditional areas. The contribution of non-traditional areas is increasing very fast with the passage of time, the changing behavior of tourism is becoming more apparent and after sometime, most of the world will be on the tourism map.



### TERMINAL EXERCISE

1. Discuss the growth pattern of world tourism since 1950.
2. Analyze the present trend in international tourism.
3. Explain the share of top 10 countries in tourist arrivals and receipts.



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### ANSWER TO INTEXT QUESTIONS

#### 14.1

- More disposable income of the tourist
  - Paid holidays or holiday entitlement
  - Travel cost
  - Technology
  - Package providers/ tour operators
- Natural : Landscapes, Parks and Coasts.  
Cultural : Historical Sites, Archeological Sites and Museum.
- Sport tourism is the movement of tourists for participating or seeing the sports in another place. Sports tourism includes such as golf, swimming, tennis, cricket, snow sports, world cup, football etc.

#### 14.2

- Some factors affecting world tourism are natural landscape, beautiful natural sites, accessibility and moderate climatic conditions.
- Several specific events are organized all over the world like festivals, religious and trade fair etc.  
Many recreational attractions are there which magnetize the tourists such as sightseeing, sports- golf, snow sports, world cup, football etc.
- The growth of world tourism is high since 2011. In the year 2011 there were 983 million tourist arrivals, 2013 it rose to 1,087 million tourists and it increased further to 1,184 million in 2015. The prospects of this growth remain positive, with international tourist arrivals expected to grow by 4% worldwide in 2016.

#### 14.3

- France, United States, Spain, Italy, United Kingdom, China, Poland, Mexico, Canada and Hungary.
- The share of Europe is maximum (41per cent) in international tourism receipts
- The growth of tourist's arrivals in East Asia and The Pacific is very strong. The share of Europe and America has declined significantly. It has happened due to growing/expanding other destinations. By 2020, South Asia's share is expected to reach 19 million, much greater than previous periods.