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STATUS OF THE ECOTOURISM IN MIZORAM: SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PHAWNGPUI NATIONAL PARK

#### **Abstract**

Tourism is as of now the world's biggest industry (\$3.4 trillion every year) and Ecotourism speaks to the quickest developing area of this market. Tourism is as of now the biggest wellspring of remote trade in nations like Costa Rica, Belize and Guatemala. Throughout the creating nations, ensured region supervisors and neighborhood groups are attempting to adjust the requirement for monetary development with the conservation of the characteristic assets. Ecotourism may offer one of striking this basic adjust. Very much arranged ecotourism can profit both ensured regions and occupants of encompassing groups by connecting long haul biodiversity preservation with neighborhood, social and financial improvement. Ecotourism is a developing portion of the worldwide tourism industry that is making noteworthy positive commitments to the ecological, social, social and monetary prosperity of goals and neighborhood groups far and wide. Offering market-connected long haul arrangements, ecotourism gives successful financial impetuses to monitoring and improving bio-social differences and ensures the common and social legacy of our lovely planet. By expanding limit building openings, ecotourism is likewise a powerful vehicle for engaging nearby groups the world over to battle against neediness and to accomplish economical advancement. Moreover, ecotourism has given a catalyst to help with greening the tourism business on many fronts (The International Ecotourism Society).

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Ecotourism has gotten much consideration as of late particularly inside the creating scene. Ecotourism in straightforward terms implies administration of tourism and preservation of nature in a path to keep up a fine harmony between the prerequisites of tourism and biology from one perspective and necessities of the nearbyCommunities for jobs, new skills, income generating employment and a better status for women on the other. Tourism policy provides the guidelines, goals and objectives and tourism planning is the process of identifying objectives and defining evaluations[1].

In India the development of option tourism advances characteristic and social occasions and

others. Few promising option tourism ways incorporate green tourism, ecotourism, eco social tourism, legacy tourism and so forth. Ecotourism created in India in 1980s. Ecotourism was comprehensively recognized as a method for accomplishing twin objectives of bio assorted qualities preservation and economical improvement. Both here and now goals and long term goals can be achieved without sacrificing one's own interests. Sustainable tourism and nature tourism are umbrella concepts that include ecotourism [2].

The return on investment in tourism from the point of view of employment generation is much higher compared to agriculture and manufacturing sector [3]. The table 1 reveals this:-



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**Table1: Contribution of Different Economic Sectors to the Employment** 

Sector	Jobs	
Agriculture	44.7	
Manufacturing	12.6	
Mining and quarrying	2.6	
Railways	0.9	
Other transport	13.8	
Tourism	47.5	

Table 1: demonstrates the commitment of various divisions to work in 2010. Contrasting with different segments the tourism segment contributes 47.5% to work. Horticulture is the second one. It contributes 44.7%. Other real segments are assembling, mining and quarring, railroads and different transports. Railroads contribute just 0.9% to occupations [4].

#### 2. ABOUT MIZORAM

The land area is between the 21 58 N and 24 35 N and the longitude 92 15 E and 93 29 E. The Tropic of Cancer goes through the heart of the State. The little condition of Mizoram is loaded with thickly forested slopes that house numerous types of orchids and wild inhabitants. The picturesque magnificence, the verdure, the interesting socio-social existence of peace cherishing and joyous individuals and the pleasant climate condition is a fascination for the tourists [5].

Mizoram is honoured with heap of attractions and normal magnificence which can leave an impression, an enduring essential involvement in the brains of tourists. Mizoram offers a situation which itself is a critical vacation spots, exceptional mountains scenes, characteristic landscape getting it done, perfect place for ecotourism exercises. Extensive piece of the

woods, for example, : North-Tropical Wet Evergreen Forest, South-Tropical Moist Deciduous Forest, East-Subtropical Pine Forest(mixed with wide leaved species) are likewise comprised of uncommon types of blossoms, herbs, winged creatures, creepy crawlies and butterflies which makes open doors for ecotourism [6].

#### 3. PROBLEM STATEMENT

This investigation is to find out about the ability of Phawngpui National Park as an eco-tourism objective since there has been no efficient examination available on this area. However, this study would empower to break down and do inside and out research on the profile of tourism going by this range so one can get to know about the present status of the Phawngpui National Park. With the recent growing pattern towards go to eco tourism goals like National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, the duty to keep up this range has expanded and thus this calls for legitimate usage of the different arranging techniques and strategies for eco-tourism goal. In addition, this investigation will contribute a more basic comprehension the passing on most extreme and ecotourism association sustainability of the Phawngpui National Park.



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#### 4. OBJECTIVES

- To concentrate the possibilities of Phawngpui National Park as an ecotourism goal. (Arrangement of Resource Inventory and Resource Use Pattern)
- To concentrate the present status of Tourism in Phawngpui National Park and the perspective of the nearby/have populace towards tourism and specifically ecotourism.
- Profiling of Tourists heading off to the survey district, focus the relationship among tourism and security and satisfaction level of the guest and host people. To get to the conveying limit of the region
- To suggest planning and management strategies for developing the study area as ecotourism destination.

#### 5. STUDY AREA

The review region Phawngpui National Park, the Blue Mountain of Mizoram is an exceedingly venerated top, thought to be the residence the Gods. Phawngpui Peak is the most raised mountain ridge in Mizoram, rising around 2157 meters high. Abounding with different vegetation, Phawngpui has been reported a National Park covering a scope of around 50 sq.km.The thick forests are scattered with minor covers of green clearings and are flourishing with different animals regular of Montane Sub-tropical forests together with oak, rhododendrons and remarkable sorts of bamboos. Phawngpui Peak is acclaimed for orchids, rhododendrons, the rapeutic basils and desolateflorasat. With tremendous trees and blossoms of all hues, Phawngpui presents a tall tale perspective of the blue hazed slopes [7].

Phawngpui Peak exhibits the most enchanting view of Mizoram. There is a semi-circular beautiful cliff in the western side called ThlazuangKhàm, which has a sharp and deep fall. This bluff is accepted to be spooky by spirits. On the crest, there is a level ground of around 2 square kilometres in region. The range is enclosed by tangled bamboo forests and other appealing vegetations. One will come across varieties of butterflies, including some rare species found in this region [8].

The Farpak area in Phawngpui is huge grassland adjacent to a cliff area where one can sight birds like Perigren Falcon, BlythsTragopan, Grey Sebia, Golden Throated Sunbirds, Barbet, Mrs Hume's Pheasants, Hornbill, Dark Rumped Swift, Mountain Bamboo Patridge, Black Eagle and other Birds.Clouded Lepord is also known to have been sighted in the Farpakareaand endangered mammals like the Slow Loris, Tiger, Leopard, Leopard Cat, Seraw, Asiatic Black Bear, Stump-tailed Goral. Macaque, Capped Langur, Goral, Barking Deer, Sambar, Kaleej Pheasant, Hoolock Gibbon, Common Langur, Rhesus Macaque [9].

#### 6. FINDINGS & DISCUSSION

#### Infrastructure Development

#### **Communication Network**

#### a) International

At present, there is no immediate universal correspondence system to Mizoram with the exception of Myanmar and Bangladesh. Myanmar can be drawn nearer by street through Mizoram from the check post close to

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the town Zokhawthar in Champhai region. The street disregards a thin scaffold on the river Tiau, which is the Indo-Myanmar outskirt.

Bangladesh can be drawn closer by a ship through the river Khawthlangtuipui close Tlabung [10].

#### b) National

Via Air: Lengpui Airport (approx. 43 Kms from Aizawl), related by method for Kolkata (West Bengal) and Imphal (Manipur). Diverse plane terminals in the Northeast territory are Guwahati and Silchar (Assam), which have road transport relationship with Mizoram. By means of Train: Bairabi in Kolasib area, just products trains. The other closest station for traveler trains is Silchar (Assam), which has street transport

Association with Mizoram.

By Road: NH – 54 through Silchar (Assam). Private and state transport transports, private cabs (Tata Sumo jeeps) consistently work on this street.

#### c) Regional

Northeast district is associated with Mizoram by street by means of Silchar (Assam). Private and state transport transports work from Guwahati (Assam), Imphal (Manipur), Shillong (Meghalaya) and Agartala (Tripura) to Silchar.

#### d) State

Private and state transport transports interface all the area puts by street. Transports and Taxis (unmetered) work in most of the region HQs and the encompassing area for neighborhood travel.

#### Telecommunication Network

Telephone interface with ISD, STD workplaces is available exactly at a couple district HQs. Adjacent framework is remotely open in a couple of areas. The system is outstandingly poor.Broadcast, Telex, Trunk, Phonogram and so forth administrations are accessible at the Post Offices at the real locale HQs. Postal administrations and Courier administrations are additionally accessible from real region HQs, however the administration is moderate [11].

#### Data Technology

- Web system is accessible just in the capital city of phawngpui. The network is exceptionally poor. There is an All India Radio station at phawngpui, which communicates customary projects. Satellite digital TV Network is accessible in the significant locale HQs.
- The significant news offices like PTI and UNI have lasting reporters at phawngpui. A Media Center of Press Information Bureau has been built up at phawngpui.
- There is around 35 day by day daily papers and 50 news magazines (Mizo and English) distributed at phawngpui.

#### Passage Permit Offices

Inward Line grants (ILP) for Indian sightseers are issued through the Resident Commissioners/Liaison Officers, Mizoram at their workplaces in New Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati, Silchar. They are additionally issued at the Lengpui (Aizawl) air terminal.

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Limited Area Permits (RAP) for remote travelers are issued by the Resident Commissioner, Mizoram House, New Delhi, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi, Foreigners' Regional Registration Offices at Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai, and every single Indian Mission abroad.

#### Tourism Department

The workplace of the Director, Department of Tourism, Mizoram is situated at Aizawl. The Liaison Officers at Mizoram Houses at Kolkata (West Bengal), New Delhi, Shillong (Meghalaya), Guwahati and Silchar (Assam) additionally give vacationer data.

#### System of Information Centers

The tourism data is accessible at the Office to the Director, Phawngpuiand additionally at alternate focuses at Kolkata, New Delhi, Shillong, Guwahati and Silchar. Be that as it may, there is no systems administration among these workplaces and every one of the bookings and so on should be done through the fundamental office at Phawngpui. The contacts with the fundamental office at phawngpui could be made through telephones, fax, post, dispatch and so forth. This office is not associated through Internet [12].

#### **Convenience Facilities**

The Department of Tourism, Mizoram has guest workplaces at 18 objectives all over Mizoram. They have signify farthest point of 136 rooms having 322 beds. There are 9 private hotels in phawngpui with a total farthest point of 180 rooms having 285 beds.

Additionally, there are government guest/circuit houses at the locale HQs and the

Forest Rest Houses of the Forest Departments near the forest divisions/guaranteed regions. There are modest workplaces gave by the Youth Hostel Association and the Young Mizo Association at a few spots.

#### Restaurants

The Department of Tourism has given eatery office at all the vacationer offices. They likewise have Cafeterias and Wayside Amenities at a couple places. There are numerous medium/little private eateries in the real urban areas at the locale HQs. There are a few little eateries/restaurants along the National Highway, close to the towns. Most of the eateries serve straightforward non-veggie lover nourishment. There is add up to forbiddance in Mizoram and alcohol is not permitted [13].

#### **Marketing and Promotion**

The tourism presentation should be finished with specific thought of Eco-tourism and through various systems in phawngpui. It must be done inventively and fiscally. The care in like manner ought to be taken to consider the establishment and its passing on farthest point, before taking up the notoriety bigly. Subtle approach will be the best framework at this intersection for phawngpui. Confined consideration could be best brought out through roadside signage and hoardings. This must be sketched out with an unmistakable point and should be greatly engaging. It must give the character to Mizoram Tourism. Outside notoriety can be brought out most financially through every day papers/magazine articles on the state and its intriguing components. This should be a steady and oversaw effort. Gifted close-by essayists could be given some driving force to give these information sources.

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Creative tasks on Radio and TV are another convincing method for clearing notoriety. This ought to be encouraged with some broad segments on these media. Particularly arranged things and knickknacks have a subtle helpful result on tourism notoriety. These are utilitarian parts, which could get the opportunity to be show windows of phawngpui Tourism. A couple of representations are backpacks, tops, Shirts, stickers et cetera. The headways in setup will give mild achievement to these things with slightest wander and will similarly fulfill subtle however tough introduction. Data making like flyers, creations and books is another shocking road for thought. Regardless, the subject based and inventive things will essentially rise. Mind must be taken to take after normal models, similar to use of reused paper and so forth to highlight the key purpose of Eco-tourism. The dynamic enthusiasm for different national and comprehensive travel/tourism/exchange fairs is productive procedure for another selfprojection in any occasion cost.

#### **Role of Local Community**

Mizo people group is vigorously reliant on economy, especially agrarian jhoom development. This work escalated agribusiness gives enough just to subsistence. Then again, this practice has annihilated the normal abundance of the state. The agribusiness in Mizoram is particularly regular and individuals stay possessed in the difficult procedure for quite a while with no profits. The tough territory does not permit much extension for some other sort of modern or development action. In this sense, tourism that is a work serious, non-contaminating, and quickly developing and salary producing industry is a fantastic alternative for Mizoram.

The accomplishment of Tourism Development in the place like phawngpui national park particularly, will rely on upon the area participation. Mizoram starting at now has a strong division of Voluntary Organizations. The women and youth in Mizoram are furthermore astoundingly dynamic, dynamic and overflowing with energy. This potential can be tapped for different purposes. It will fulfill work time in the for the most part precluded section from claiming the overall population, will allow the organization activity of tourism improvement to create like capable business and meanwhile will obtain the opinion proprietorship among the close-by people.

#### Women's Participation:

The social order venture through JTMP should be furthermore supplemented with another think push to ensure the support of Women in the Tourism Development and Management in phawngpui national park. It is incredible that women in Mizoram are inventive, dynamic, stacked with energy and right now in the cutting edge in numerous parts. In any case, one of kind open entryways must be made for their dynamic consideration in the tourism part. This is not by any means to help them but instead in like manner to help the tourism division since it is in a need human resource with a wellness of organization and settlement. The women should be engaged, with due forces to take genuine commitments to run a part of the activities of the tourism office. Without a doubt, even here, they should be managed like equivalent business accomplices. The degree and terms of reference must be worked out together and precisely.

Also, an exceptional exertion must be made to guarantee the work of ladies staff in the

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Tourism Projects. The Department of Tourism, Mizoram ought to be pleased to have a not too bad sexual orientation proportion among the staff. The accompanying table will give a thought of thecurrent circumstance:

**Table 2: Women Staff in the Tourism Department** 

No. of Males	No. of	Total	% Males	% Females	
	Females				
55	26	81	67.9	32.1	
		The Holling	A LOVO		
	DIA	CASUAL STAI	CASUAL STAFF		
52	26	78	66.67	33.33	
1		TOTAL STAI	F		
107	52	159	67.3	32.7	

#### 7. FUTURE SCOPE

It is expected that this exploration will be utilized by the specialists of the ensured regions i'e National parks and natural life asylums in Mizoram and by the Tourism

Department and in addition the State Government

- It will upgrade motivation and consolation to take an
- Interest in ecotourism exercises in Phawngpui National Park
- It will likewise help in partake in lessening the unfriendly effects of ecotourism, for example, uncalled for and improper examples of tourism improvement
- Increase people group acknowledgment of ecotourism and its significance, eco vacationer conduct
- The National Park's staff and overseers will profit as takes after:

- Better observe the status of the group for further reasonable advancement with the recreation canter's participation
- Understand how to utilize proper techniques to instruct and energize neighbourhood occupants through practical feasible tourism improvement strategy and give an adjusted advancement arrange for which addresses the issues of the nearby inhabitants, the economy, society, and condition.

#### 8. COCLUSION

Considering the wide geographical and biological diversity, the scope of ecotourism in India is very high. If these resources are tapped successfully we can transform the face of ecotourism industry in India. What actually needed is careful planning and a target oriented approach. Ecotourism in India has flourished because of the immense biodiversity that exists

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nowhere else in the world. It must, however, be realized that there is immense potential still to be tapped in terms of making optimum use of the available natural resources. Well-managed ecotourism can be hugely beneficial for biodiversity. There are some factors that have promoted ecotourism in India to a great extent. However, India's full potential is yet to be realized and in the future years the country can expect to reap some great rewards. Looking at the tremendous potential the ecotourism industry offers in the field of its employment generation and foreign exchange earning capacity, it is the time that Government pays urgent attention to the needs of the ecotourism industry. It is believed that by 2020, tourism industry would be a single biggest industry in the world. In this way, the ecotourism in India requires to be developed by amending laws for attaining the objectives of sustainability.

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