

20. A Study of Role of Infrastructural Facilities in the Development of Pilgrimage Destination Ozar in Pune District, Maharashtra

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Abstract

Tourism is the largest fastest growing industry of the world. It is the temporary and short-term movement of people to destinations outside the place where they normally live and work a tourist is a temporary visitor to a place. There are various types of tourism according to the purpose of tourists. tourism is broadly divided in to Natural tourism, Health tourism, Disaster tourism, Sports tourism, Agro- tourism, Ecotourism, Ethnic tourism and Religious tourism etc. Religious tourism is also known as a pilgrimage or spiritual tourism. Tourism Infrastructure includes all facilities, which will make the trip comfortable and memorable. The basic public services such as water, electricity, sanitation, health, security, communication roads and public transportation etc. needed for developing tourism. In this study an attempt has been made to understand the views of the pilgrims regarding various facilities in Ozar like Dev Darshan, transportation, accommodation, Local Security, food & Drinking Water, Medical Facilities, Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area, Darshan Que Facilities, Tourist information Board and Guide, Parking, Custom and Traditions and Pollution Control Majors. These were classified as excellent, good, satisfactory and unsatisfactory, and noted in the percentage. Dev Darshan, Pollution Control Majors, Parking, Transportation, Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area, Custom and Traditions, Darshan Que, Local Security are recorded as excellent or good facilities. Pilgrim is well satisfying about these facilities.

Key Words: Pilgrim, Religious, Impact, facility, Infrastructure, faith tourism.

Introduction

Tourism is the largest fastest growing industry of the world. It is the temporary and short-term movement of people to destinations outside the place where they normally live and work. It

includes the activities they indulge in at the destination as well as all facilities and services specially created to meet their needs tourism does not only mean travelling to the particular destination but also includes all activities undertaken during the state. Tourism is closely related to leisure and recreation. A tourist is a temporary visitor to a place. There are various types of tourism according to the purpose of tourist's, tourism is broadly divided in to Natural tourism, Health tourism, Disaster tourism, Sports tourism, Agro- tourism, Ecotourism, Ethnic tourism, and Religious tourism etc.

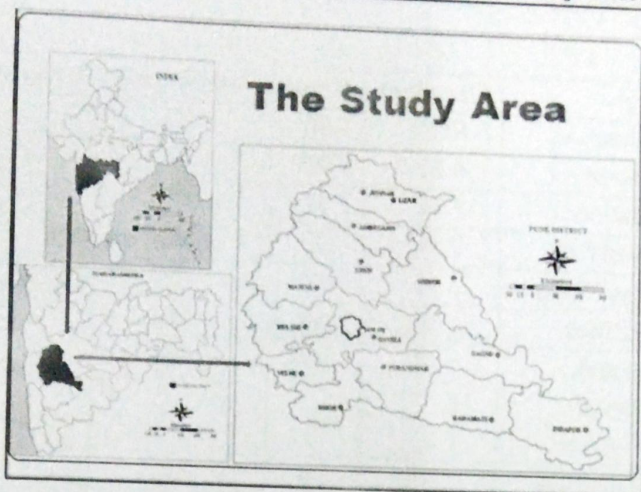
Religious tourism is also known as a pilgrimage or spiritual tourism. Pilgrimage tourism, also commonly referred to as faith tourism, is a form of tourism, whereby people of faith travel individually or in groups for pilgrimage, missionary, or leisure (fellowship) purposes. Infrastructure facility of any tourist place is play vital role in development of pilgrim center. Tourism Infrastructure includes all facilities, which will make the trip comfortable and memorable. It includes easy accessibility, well developed road, with wayside facilities, clean environment and accommodation, variety of attraction, safety and security, Good communication networks and shopping facilities etc.

The basic public services such as water, electricity, sanitation, health, security, communication roads and public transportation etc. needed for developing tourism. In this research paper an attempt has been made to understand view of pilgrims about facilities provided to them at Ozar. Ozar is one of the ashtavinayaka temple is a famous pilgrim center not only in Pune district but all over the India.

Study Area

Ozar located in the Junnar taluka of Pune district on the left banks of river Kukadi one of the tributary Ghod river, it is situated close to the Yedagaon reservoir, about 9 km north to Narayangaon and about 85 km North from Pune city. It lies in 19⁰11'17''North latitude and 73⁰57'34''East longitude.

The Vigneshwara or Vighnahar Ganapati Temple of Ozar is one of the famous Ashtavinayaka temple which is known as a Lord to remove obstacles. In the Ashtavinayak circuit Ozar is the seventh temple to be visited, but because it is a more convenient route, pilgrims frequently visit Ozar on fifth number. During the entire year Pilgrims visit Ozarbut most of pilgrims visit on monthly Sankashti Chaturthi. The fairs of Ganesh Chaturthi, Ganesh Jayanti and Kartik Poornima are major crowd days of Ozar.



Objectives of the Study

General objectives of the present research are to focus on the Geographical study of Ozar pilgrim Centre. The specific objectives of the study are as under

1. To study the location of Ozar.
2. To find out the facility provided for pilgrims in Ozar.
3. To study the views of pilgrims about facilities provided to them

Methodology

The present research work is based on sample survey. For asses the views of pilgrims about facilities provided to them. Questionnaires were developed and in interview schedule ask to pilgrim's mention their opinion about facilities either of excellent, good, satisfactory and unsatisfactory. These views of pilgrim were then converted into numerical values such as 8 to 10 for excellent, 6 to 8 for good, 4 to 6 for satisfactory and 0 to 4 for unsatisfactory for the analysis of the attitude of pilgrims, two hundred six tourists were interviewed in Ozar, and these were classified as excellent, good, satisfactory and unsatisfactory, and noted in the percentage.

Tourists View About Facilities

In this study an attempt has been made to understand the views of the pilgrims regarding various facilities in Ozar like Dev Darshan, transportation, accommodation, Local Security, food& Drinking Water, Medical Facilities, Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area, Darshan Que Facilities, Tourist information Board and Guide, Parking, Custom and Traditions and Pollution Control Majors. These were classified as excellent, good, satisfactory and unsatisfactory and noted in the percentage.

Table-1

Sr.No.	Facility	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
1	Dev Darshan	152	46	8	0	206
2	Transportation	21	113	37	35	206
3	Accommodation	72	51	46	37	206
4	Local Security	37	92	63	14	206
5	Food & Drinking Water	36	78	73	19	206
6	Medical Facilities	29	60	51	66	206
7	Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area	47	104	44	11	206
8	Darshan Que Facilities	36	94	71	5	206
9	Tourist information Board and Guide	33	66	81	26	206
10	Parking	42	109	47	8	206
11	Custom and Traditions	41	94	36	35	206
12	Pollution Control Majors	23	112	58	13	206

Source- Field Survey

As per the table no one, out of 206 pilgrims 152 pilgrims noted Dev Darshan facility are excellent and 72 pilgrims noted Local security facility are excellent. In Ozar 113 pilgrims noted Transportation facility and 112 pilgrims noted that Pollution Control Majors are good, 81 pilgrims noted Tourist Information Board and Guide and ,71 pilgrims noted Darshan Que Facilities as a satisfactory and 66 pilgrims noted Medical Facilities as unsatisfactory in Ozar.

Table No. 2 Tourists View About Facilities

(Views percentage of tourists)

Sr.No	Factor	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total %
1	Dev Darshan	73.8	22.3	3.9	0	100
2	Transportation	10.2	54.8	18	17	100
3	Accommodation	34.9	24.8	22.3	18	100
4	Local Security	18	44.7	30.6	6.7	100
5	Food & Drinking Water	17.5	37.9	35.4	9.2	100
6	Medical Facilities	14.1	29.1	24.7	32.1	100
7	Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area	22.8	50.5	21.4	5.3	100
8	Darshan Que Facilities	17.5	45.6	34.5	2.4	100

9	Tourist information Board and Guide	16	32	39.4	12.6	100
10	Parking	20.4	52.9	22.8	3.9	100
11	Custom and Traditions	19.9	45.6	17.5	17	100
12	Pollution Control Majors	11.2	54.4	28.1	6.3	100
	average	23	41.2	24.9	10.9	100

Source- Field Survey

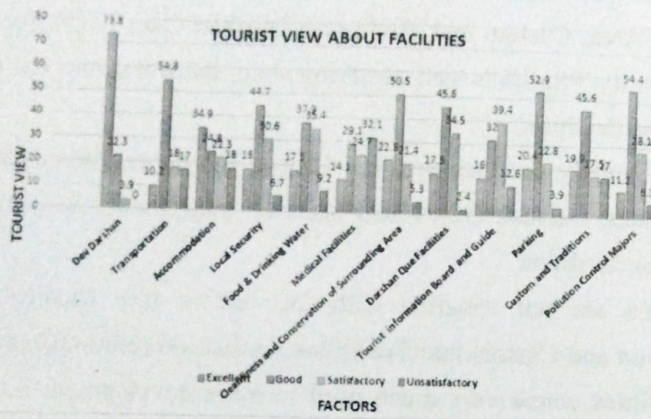


Table no.2 reveals the tourists view about the facilities at the Ozar 41.2% pilgrim's strongly support that overall facilities are good, followed by 24.9% pilgrim's noted facilities are Satisfactory in Ozar. 23% pilgrim's noted facilities are Excellent while only 10.9% pilgrims are unsatisfactory about the facilities.

As per table 73.8% pilgrim's felt that the Dev Darshan facilities are excellent,22.3% says that Dev Darshan facilities are good. While only 3.9% pilgrim's felt that Dev Darshan facilities are satisfactory, and no one says that it is unsatisfied. About the accommodation facilities 34.9% felt that excellent, 24.8% pilgrim's felt that the accommodation facilities are good,22.2% pilgrim's felt that it is satisfactory, but 18% Pilgrims are unsatisfied with the facility of accommodation. About transport 54.8% pilgrims says it is good but 17% pilgrims noted it is unsatisfied.

It is observed that more than 50% pilgrimssayfacilities likePollution Control Majors,Parking, Transportaton, Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area are good, and more than 40% pilgrims saysfacilities like Custom and Traditions, Darshan Que, Local Security are good. Facilities like Tourist InformationBoard andGuide (39.4%), Food & Drinking Water (35.4%), Darshan Que (34.5%), Local Security (30.6%), percentage pilgrims are Satisfactory. The facilities like Medical (32.1%),Accommodation (18%), Transportation and

Custom and Traditions (17%), Tourist information Board and Guide (12.6%) are Unsatisfactory about that facilities.

Conclusion

1. Dev Darshan facilities recorded as an excellent facility at Ozar because Pilgrim's visit to Ozar due to spiritual purpose, it is one of the ashtavinayaka temple of Ganpati.
2. Pollution Control Majors, Parking, Transportation, Cleanliness and Conservation of Surrounding Area, Custom and Traditions, Darshan Que, Local Security are recorded as a good facility. Pilgrim is well satisfying about these facilities but their little scope to improve these facilities.
3. Pilgrims are Satisfy the facilities like Tourist Information Board and Guide, Food & Drinking Water, Darshan Que, Local Security, pilgrims are Satisfactory there need to improve these facilities.
4. The Pilgrims are not satisfied with the factors like Medical, Accommodation, Transportation and Custom and Traditions, Tourist information Board and Guide. These are the facilities where very much need to more development in Ozar as per pilgrim point of view.
5. Many tourists feel that the required accommodation facilities are provided by them are excellent but some are unsatisfied.
6. Transportation facilities are provided by them are good but there needs development of link road of Otur-Narayangaon and need to improvement of public transportation as per pilgrim view.
7. About the medical facilities most of the pilgrims are unsatisfying, there need to construct big hospital as per tourist point of view.

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