Development of Dandi Beach Area as Tourist Place
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Abstract—Coastal areas are extremely interesting regions to examine, since they can be very well developed as a place for tourism. Thus by developing these areas it can increase the economical as well as its social conditions. The area selected is situated in Navsari district named as Dandi village, a historical place where Mahatma Gandhi conducted the Salt Satyagraha during the freedom struggle. This place has not been so developed in these decades. Dandi could become one of the finest beach by implementing proper development plan. Thus by this project this area can be developed by constructing new resorts, hotels, hospitals, cycling areas, and so on. By the development of Dandi beach thousands of public inhabitant in this village will get employment which is very much necessary to improve their living standard. The project will promote as an eco-tourism destination and introduction of nature tails, in addition to promoting integrated village and community development. It will also introduce initiaitvities to conserve the Dandi coast and its coastal resources. So by the development of Dandi beach area many tourists will get attracted to it and will give Gujarat a new holiday destination along with increase in the income of Gujarat tourism.

Key words: Dandi Beach, Tourism Development, Employment, Beach Amenities

I. INTRODUCTION

The breathtaking state of Gujarat situated in the western coast of India is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the country. The state is reputed for its rich cultural heritage, historical significance, handicraft and innumerable tourist attractions. Apart from being most industrialist region in India Gujarat is also major tourist hub of nation. A land of vibrant colours and infinite beauty Gujarat never fails to charms its many visitors. Gujarat has one of the longest coastlines of about 1916 kms in the country. Sprinkled with enthralling beach resorts, shore temples and blue lagoons Gujarat is home to some of the finest stretches of beaches in the country. An ultimate combination of nature history and religious monuments Gujarat forms one of the most important tourist destinations in the Indian subcontinent. Being the birthplace of many Indian legends like Mahatma Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel, this place has a rich heritage of culture and traditions which glorifies the state. Dandi is situated on the coastline near the Surat city of Gujarat. The place is associated with the famous Dandi March organized by the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi. Owing to the fact that the place was the venue for an important campaign in the National Freedom Struggle of India, it has become a major excursion from Surat. It is a small hamlet known as a salt center. In the year 1930, Mahatma Gandhi organized the Dandi March to revolt against the salt laws imposed by the British Government.

A. Need for Dandi Beach Area:

By the development of this beach thousands of people near Dandi will get employment and also Gujarat will get new tourist destination. As we all know that all people like visiting beaches for relaxation so by this development they will get new option in Gujarat as their holiday destination. The income of Gujarat tourism will also increase by this development of beach area.

The twin objectives of providing new tourism products and unlocking the destination would offer the tourists an opportunity to feel and experience the rich culture, indigenous art & craft, customs and traditions of Gujarat. The destination would be ideal for relaxation in the lap of luxury and to experience the beautiful bio-diversity, rich culture and traditions – the very essence of Gujarat.

The possible set of tourism products for development at Dandi Beach include Water sports, Restaurants, Gazebos, Hotels, Resorts, Spa, Convention Centre, Exhibition Complex, Eco Parks etc.

B. Dandi Area Site and Surrounding:

1) Location:

Situated at a distance of 18 kilometers from Navsari city, Dandi in Navsari is a center for the production of salt and is of historical importance to all the Indians. Owing to its significance in the history of Indian Independence struggle, the region has become one of The chief tourist’s attraction.
2) Accessibility:
Dandi is situated on the coastline near the Navsari city of Gujarat. It is situated 18 kms from Navsari and 57 kms from Surat. As there is no railway station in Dandi people have to travel at Navsari by train and then to Dandi by other means of transportation.

3) Geomorphology:
Project site is almost flat situated parallel to seashore. Small grasses are grown on the site. The soil of the region is black. There are two lakes near Dandi: Dudhiya Talav and Sharbatiya Talav.

4) Human Settlements:
There is no human settlement within the project site. A small settlement is at the adjacent of site of about 20-25 household. Navsari is another nearest settlement to the site. It is located near NH-8 with a population of about 13 lakhs.

5) Tourist Population:
Daily tourist population of Dandi beach is around 500-550 and tourist population during holidays is around 40,000-50,000.

6) Other Tourist Destination in Dandi:
Saifee Villa (Mahatma Gandhi Museum), Dudhiya lake and Sharbatiya lake along with Dandi beach are the major tourist attraction place in Dandi.

7) Employment:
By implementation of development on Dandi beach around 500-600 people would get employment benefit.

"In the middle ages people were tourists because of their religion, whereas now they are tourists because tourism is their religion"
- Robert Runcie

C. Plan of Work:
We had selected a small part of land on seashore of Dandi beach and had tried our level best to develop it such that it would become capable of attracting large amount of tourists.

II. INFRASTRUCTURE

A. Basic Infrastructure:
Basic infrastructures which are to be installed at regular intervals on beach are as follows:-
1) Signage
2) Waste disposal
3) Playing zone
4) Pedestrian way
5) Changing rooms
6) Seating bench and arrangements
7) Pathway
8) Washing amenities
9) Shower facilities
10) Security cabins

B. Amenities Which Are To Be Provided Near Beach Area:
1) Parking facilities
2) ATM facilities
3) Tourist information centre
4) Public conveniences
5) Safety and security
C. Beach Proposed Interventions:

1) Beach festivals
2) Yachting
3) Boating
4) Water parasailing
5) Barefoot skiing
6) Jet ski
7) Beach sports
8) Local restaurants
9) Gazebos
10) Cycling track

III. Outcome

The main output of this project is to develop Dandi beach area such that it can be capable of attracting more number of domestic and foreign tourists. The main purpose of developing Dandi beach area is to give Gujarat a new tourist destination. By this project there will be a remarkable increase in employment as well as income of Dandi.

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