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# EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE

Editors MANOHARA BABU .D.N GOVINDARAJU .N





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#### Chapter - 11

#### PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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#### Abstract

Economic development projects brought innumerable benefits but also had unintended detrimental effects on people and natural resources. Human activities have resulted in the disruption of social and communal harmony, the loss of human livelihood and life, the introduction of new diseases, and the destruction of renewable resources. Social impacts are the impacts of developmental interventions on human environment. The impacts of development interventions take different forms. While significant benefits flow in from different development actions, there is also a need to identify and evaluate the negative externalities associated with them. Such impacts not only need to be identified and measured but also need to be managed in such a way that the positive externalities are maximized and the negative externalities are minimized. In view of this, the present paper focuses on the principles of Social Impact Assessment in detail.

Key words: Economic development, Social Impact, Social and Communal harmony, etc.

#### INTRODUCTION

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A balanced development planning takes into account the environmental, social and biodiversity impacts of economic development. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and biodiversity impact assessments are some of the methods that aid in the planning and decision making process. These impact assessments help in identifying the likely positive and negative impacts of proposed policy actions, likely trade-offs and synergies, and thus facilitate informed decision-making. Moreover, the need for impact assessment stems from the fact that:

- Impact assessments enhance positive and sustainable outcomes associated with project implementation.
- They support the integration of social and environmental aspects associated with the numerous subprojects into the decision making process.
- > The enhance positive social and environmental outcomes:
- They minimize social and environmental impacts as a result of either individual subprojects or their cumulative effects;
- They protect human health and minimize impacts on cultural property.

#### WHAT IS SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT?

Social Impact Assessment (SIA) can be defined in terms of efforts to assess or estimate, in advance, the social consequences that are likely to follow specific policy actions (including programs/ projects and the adoption of new policies), and specific government actions. It is a process that provides a framework for prioritizing, gathering, analyzing, and incorporating social information and participation into the design and delivery of developmental interventions. The SIA ensures that the development interventions:

- > are informed and take into account the key relevant social issues; and
- incorporate a participation strategy for involving a wide range of stakeholders. Social Assessment (SA), on the other hand, is a process that provides framework for prioritizing, gathering, analyzing and incorporating social information and participation into the design and delivery of development operations (Rietbergen- McCracken and Narayan 1998).

#### PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purpose of the study is to provide clear and comprehensive knowledge about principles of Social Impact Assessment in detail.

#### PRINCIPLES OF SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

It gives an overview of the principles that guide the concepts, the process, and the method of conducting social impact assessment. These principles are based on the expert judgment of widely varied professionals like sociologists, anthropologists, social psychologists, geographers, land-use planners, economists, natural resource social scientists and landscape architects. These principles are meant to ensure sound scientific inquiry and are based on the best practices established in the field over the last three decades. This section draws heavily from the guidelines

and principles for Social Impact Assessment prepared by the Inter-organizational Committee on Guidelines and Principles for Social Impact Assessment consisting of U.S. Department of Commerce, Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Principle 1: Involve the diverse public

The first step is to identify and involve all potentially affected groups and individuals. Public involvement should be an active and interactive process, in which members of the public are full participants in the SIA enterprise. Public involvement must reach out to groups that do not routinely participate in government decision making because of cultural, linguistic, and economic barriers.

Principle 2: Analyze impact equity

Identification of all groups likely to be affected an agency action is central to the concept of impact equity. Trade-off always exists regarding a decision to construct a dam, build a highway or close an area to timber harvesting. But the cost of adverse social impacts should not be borne by one single category of persons or sections of the society that are considered as vulnerable due to

age, gender, ethnicity, race, occupation or other factors.

While most proposed projects or policies are not zero-sum situations, and there may be varying benefits for almost all involved. SIA has a special duty to identify those whose adverse impacts might get lost in the aggregate benefits. Impact equity must be considered in close and sympathetic consultation with affected communities, neighborhoods, and groups, especially low-income and minority groups. Analysis should begin during scoping to ensure that important issues are not left out.

Identifying Social Impact Assessment Variables: Social impact assessment variables point to measurable change in human population, communities, and social relationships resulting from a development project or policy change. After research on local community change, rural industrialization, reservoir and highway development, natural resource development, and social

change in general, the following are the social variables:

Population Characteristics mean present population and expected change, ethnic
and racial diversity, and influxes and outflows of temporary residents as well as the

arrival of seasonal or leisure residents.

Community and Institutional Structures mean the size, structure, and level of
organization of local government including linkages to the larger political systems. They
also include historical and present patterns of employment and industrial diversification,
the size and level of activity of voluntary associations, religious organizations and
interests groups, and finally, how these institutions relate to each other.

Political and Social Resources refer to the distribution of power authority, the interested and affected publics, and the leadership capability and capacity within the

community or region.

4. Individual and Family Changes refer to factors which influence the daily life of the individuals and families, including attitudes, perceptions, family characteristics and friend-ship networks. These changes range from attitudes toward the policy to an alteration in family and friendship networks to perceptions of risk, health, and safety.

5. Community Resources include patterns of natural resource and land use; the availability of housing and community services to include health, police and fire protection and sanitation facilities. A key to the continuity and survival of human communities are their historical and cultural resources. Under this collection of variables we also consider possible changes for indigenous people and religious subcultures.

Principle 3: Focus the assessment

Most often, time and resource constraints affect the scope of the assessment and the extent to which it can be done within the time available. Social impact assessment practitioners need to focus on the most significant impacts in an order of priority, and all significant impacts for all impacted groups must be identified early using a variety of rapid appraisal or investigative techniques.

Principle 4: Identify methods and assumptions and define significance

The methods and assumptions used in the SIA should be made available and published prior to a decision in order to allow decision makers as well the public to evaluate the assessment of impacts. It should clearly describe how the SIA is conducted, what assumptions are used and how significance is determined. A social impacts statement needs to focus on impacts found to be significant in terms of context and intensity considerations. Context includes such considerations as society as a whole, affected regions, affected interests and locality (e.g., when

considering site-specific projects, local impacts assume greater importance than those of a regional nature).

Principle 5: Provide feedback on social impacts to project planners

Identify problems that could be solved with changes to the proposed action or alternatives. Findings from the SIA should feed back into project design to mitigate adverse impacts and enhance positive ones. The impact assessment, therefore, should be designed as a dynamic process involving cycles of project design, assessment, redesign, and reassessment. This process is often carried out informally with project designers prior to publication of the draft assessment for public comment; public comments on a draft EIS can contribute importantly to this process of feedback and modification.

#### Principle 6: Use SIA practitioners

A trained social scientist employing social science methods will provide the best results. An experienced SIA practitioner will know the data, and be familiar and conversant with existing social science evidence pertaining to impacts that have occurred elsewhere, which may be relevant to the impact area in question. This breadth of knowledge and experience can prove invaluable in identifying important impacts that may not surface as public concerns. A social scientist will be able to identify the full range of important impacts and then will be able to select the appropriate measurement procedures.

Having social scientist as part of the interdisciplinary EIS team will also reduce the probability that an important social impact could go unrecognized. In assessing social impacts, if the evidence for a potential type of impact is not definitive in either direction, then the appropriate conservative conclusion is that it cannot be ruled out with confidence. In addition, it is important that the SIA practitioner be conversant with the technical and biological perspectives brought to bear on the project, as well as the cultural and procedural context of the agency they work with.

Principle 7: Establish monitoring and mitigation programs

Monitoring significant social impact variables and any programs that have been put into place to mitigate them are crucial to the social impact assessment process. Identifying a monitoring infrastructure needs a key element of the local planning process. Monitoring and mitigation should be a joint agency and community responsibility and both activities should occur on an iterative basis throughout the project life cycle. Trust and expertise are key factors in balancing agency and community monitoring participation. Few agencies have the resources to continue these activities for an extended period, but local communities should be provided resources to assume a portion of the monitoring and mitigation responsibilities.

#### Principle 8: Identify data sources

Published scientific literature, secondary data and primary data from the affected area should be consulted for all SIAs. Published scientific literature includes journal articles, books, and reports available from similar projects. Secondary data sources are the Census, vital statistics, geographical data, relevant agency publications, and routine data collected by state and federal agencies. Examples of other secondary data sources include: agency caseload statistics (e.g., from mental health centers, social service agencies and other human service providers, law enforcement agencies, and insurance and financial regulatory agencies); published and unpublished historical materials (often available in local libraries, historical societies, and school district files); complaints produced by booster and/or service organizations (such chambers of commerce, welcome wagon organizations, and church groups); and the files of local news-papers. Primary Data from the Affected Area includes surveys, oral histories and informant interviews.

Principle 9: Plan for gaps in data

SIA practitioners often have to produce an assessment in the absence of all the relevant or even the necessary data. Evaluation of the missing information and developing a strategy for proceeding becomes important even if the information is approximate.

Some guide principles of social impact assessment

- Achieve extensive understanding of local and regional settings to be affected by the action or policy
- Focus on key social and cultural issues related to the action or policy from the community and stakeholder profiles
- Identify research methods, assumptions and significance that are holistic, transparent and replicable
- 4. Provide quality information that prescribe to scientific norms for use in decision-making
- Ensure that any environmental justice issues are fully described and analyzed by taking into consideration the vulnerable stakeholders and populations
- 6. Undertake evaluation/monitoring and mitigation measures

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Some of the other principles and guidelines that need to be taken into consideration while undertaking social impact assessment include:

- Taking account of initial response to project announcement support or opposition may be an impact itself or an indicator of the likely degree of community cohesion or conflict over social issues
- Qualifying data sufficiency and reliability where SIA is hampered by a lack of adequate data, err on the conservative side in reporting any potentially significant impacts (e.g. stating that it cannot be ruled out with confidence rather than concluding it is not proven)
- Predicting key issues it is better to be roughly correct on the matters that count, rather than quantifying the impacts that can be counted
- Team building experienced social scientists need to be an integral part of the EIA team to predict these key issues and establish linkages to biophysical impacts. Often, team building must address cultural style as well as disciplinary differences, for example when relating an SIA to the EIA and project planning timetable on the one hand and the norms and traditions of an affected community on the other.

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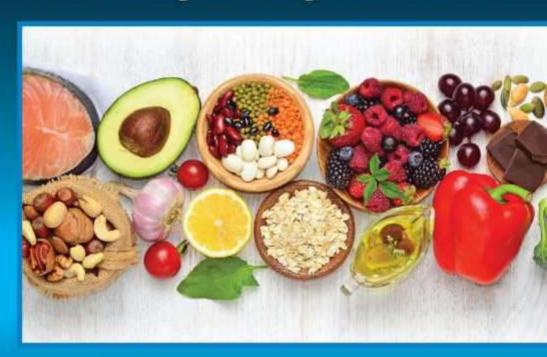
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It is a great pleasure to work with my co-editors Devarajan Thangadurai, Saher Islam, and Juliana Bunmi Adetunji.

They did a great job. It is always nice to work with colleagues you can rely on.

This creates possibilities for the future.

Leo M.L. Nollet

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## Series Preface

There will always be a need to analyze food compounds and their properties. Current trends in analyzing methods include automation, increasing the speed of analyses, and miniaturization. Over the years, the unit of detection has evolved from micrograms to pictograms.

A classical pathway of analysis is sampling, sample preparation, cleanup, derivatization, separation, and detection. At every step, researchers are working and developing new methodologies. A large number of papers are published every year on all facets of analysis. So there is a need for books that gather information on one kind of analysis technique or on the analysis methods for a specific group of food components.

The scope of the CRC Series on Food Analysis & Properties aims to present a range of books edited by distinguished scientists and researchers who have significant experience in scientific pursuits and critical analysis. This series is designed to provide state-of-the-art coverage on topics such as the following:

- Recent analysis techniques on a range of food components.
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- The understanding of the physical, chemical, and functional properties of foods.

The book Nutriomics is volume number 19 of this series.

I am happy to be a series editor of such books for the following reasons:

- I am able to pass on my experience in editing high-quality books related to food.
- I get to know colleagues from all over the world more personally.
- I continue to learn about interesting developments in food analysis.

Much work is involved in the preparation of a book. I have been assisted and supported by a number of people, all of whom I would like to thank. I would especially like to thank the team at CRC Press/Taylor & Francis, with a special word of thanks to Randy Brehm and Steve Zollo, senior editors.

Many, many thanks to all the editors and authors of this volume and future volumes. I very much appreciate all their effort, time, and willingness to do a great job. Contributors xix

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## SOCIAL PERSPECTIVES IN CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH LITERATURE

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#### CHAPTER 9

### THE PORTRAYAL OF FEMALE CHARACTERS IN THE WORKS OF NAMITA GOKHALE

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#### Abstract

Namita Gokhale, the prominent India post modern women novelist secured significant place in the history of post modern Indian English literature. The novelist with a distinctive perspective portrayed the nature of modern Indian women in her words. The post modern Indian women are very courageous and spontaneous in their lives and grab the opportunities to embrace any kind of challenges to transform themselves and the socio cultural circumstances around them. The female characters in the Namita Gokhale's novels reveal that the modern women are not weak, frail, and inferior creatures pleading the mercy of their counter parts. The works of Gokhale highlights the drastic shifts in the attitude of Indian women and their relentless fighting spirit in creating identity for themselves. The preset study focuses on the female protagonists in Gokhale's works and analyzes a new trend in the post modern women which is completely different from the conventional and stereo type female characters presented by male writers in the patriarchal Indian society. Keywords: Solidarity, Independence, Identity Patriarchy, Depression, Dejection.

#### Introducton

The patriarchal society and the conventional literature portrayed women as subordinate, servant and a loyal subject to supremacy of the male. Very conveniently in the history the male writers projected women as a gender which subjects to the authority of the opposite. Women writers under the influence of feminism represented the issues of women and their struggle in their works. Namita Gokhale, through her works presented female characters those who strive for their individuality, independence, and identity in their lives. She also projected women as transformational characters who act as instrumental in the social transformation. This new perspective made Namita Gokhale unique among Indian women writers.

Namita Gokhale works picturized courageous women characters who are brave and adventurous to create their own identity in the society. This phenomenon is very new in the Indian women writings which generally depicts Indian traditional women and their concerns. This distinctive narration is very evident in her works like "The Book of Shadows", "Gods, Graves, and Grandmother" and "Paro: Dreams of Passion".

In 'Paro: Dreams of passion' the novelist portrayed female characters of metropolitan cities to reveal the fact that how peculiar emotional instincts control the lives of modern women. Among the two characters Paro and Priya, Paro is not self-reliant, seeks emotional support and meets fatal end. Priya is a family lady who gives importance to her family and finds meaning in the family life. These two are quite opposite and they have different attitudes towards their lives. The two characters find meaning in their lives only in the presence of man and lack that individuality. Paro always longs for men with lust but not with love. This weakness clearly presents how men subjected women with their sexual and psychological superiority. Paro remind as a malignant because of her lifestyle.

Priya's life is different from the tough Pharaoh. The two characters who represent the modern metropolitan women suggest that the women can get identity and individuality not through conventional and radical ways of lives. There is something beyond conventions and modern perceptions which can offer perfect means to achieve independence and individuality.

In the novel "Devine beings, Graves and Grandmother" the novelist discussed the quality of skillfulness and ability to understand the life as it is. The Grandmother character is more practical in the novel and exhibits the skill in shaping and redefining the life based on the circumstances. Beside the character Phoolwita, there is a central character Gudiya nom de plume Pooja. She reveals her true character after parting of Kalki.

The novel presents the social conduct and religious enthusiasm which is predominant in the public. Gudiya's fortune makes her life more beautiful and joyful day by day. Gudiya captures the attention of Kalki with her beauty and age. The novelist portrayed the Indian culture and the implications of the youth. The novel clearly projected a distinction between established gathering and youthful gathering. The youthful gathering always heals no constructive results due to shortcomings. The two different perceptions towards life obviously restricted by the peculiar mindsets. Phoolwati and Lila are traditional and obedient women. They are capable enough to handle all circumstances in their lives. The two are very responsible mothers and Phoolwati even accepts the absence of Ammi.

In her Novel 'A Himalayan Love Story', she delt with the main concerns of women like denied of affection, misunderstanding and fraternity. The themes like sufferings and pains involved in arranged marriages, unfulfilled sexual wants, disappointment, depression, purposeless desires are very evident in the novel.

The life of Parvathi is pathetic and miserable. She could not receive affection from her kit and kins after the death of her parents. She failed in marrying the man whom she loved and couldn't get physical or psychological satisfaction from her partner. Most of the women characters in this novel more concerned about the physical perception, rather than the emotional or the inward growth. They are people with no emotions and affections.

The novelist in her work 'The Book of Shadows' depicted the life of Rachita. The protagonist constantly fights to defeat the fate. In the novel the characters seek for affection in their lives. Corrosive assault is the central idea in the novel. Mental injury suffers Rachita a lot and compels to confine herself to the house. Though the present life causing sever suffocation, the protagonist wants to restore the past life by defeating the fate.

In 'The Book of Shadows' and 'Shakuntala: The Play of Memory' discussed conflict between reality and the life. Shakuntala: The Play of Memory' highlights ever burning issue gender discrimination. Though the centuries passed, the plight of women remind same. This novel questions the authority of Hindu religious texts which portrayed women as inferior.

In the work "Mountain Echoes: Reminiscences of Kumaoni Women' depicted the lives of Kumaoni women and their lives. Through the characters of Ms. Shivani, Ms. Lakshmi (Jeeya), Ms Tara Pande and Ms. Shakuntala Pande presented the views of women on the modern society. These characters discuss the condition of women from different direction and reflects up on the attitude of society towards women.

In this novel, the novelist discussed the future direction of feminism or women activists. The feminists are in serious deliberations to find out and authentic ideological framework to carry forward their moment. The novelist is very clear regarding future direction of women activists and the role of young generation in the moment.

In her work 'The Book of Shiva', Namita Gokhale initiated a philosophical discussion regarding the status of women in the Indian culture. She argues that the culture constructed the image of women all through these ages. She presented Parvati the wife of Shiva as the first women activist and who raised voice against the authority of man. In this work Gokhule initiated the serious and philosophical discussion from new dimension.

Gokhale is very clear in her works, her thoughts and ideas are very sharp and straight. All the female characters of Gokhale are very strong and courageous. They display their intention to wipe of the past and to start the new life by painting the nails and applying the henna again and again. The characters strive to achieve their solidarity through unconventional means. This is very evident in the characters like Paro, yearning Gudiya, ruling Phoolwati, and blockhead Parvati.

'In Search of Sita' Gokhale discussed important topics, origin of Sita sufferings of Sita in alien land, the test by flame etc. She also presented different types of women through the characters of Kaikayi, Surpanaka and Mandodari, Urmila. She also presented critical analysis of the Indian views on Sita. She questioned characterization of Sita in some parts of the text Ramayana.

Gokhale published "Priya In Incredible Indyaa" as a sequel to our successful novel 'Paro; Dreams of Passion'. In this work the novelist presented the continuity of thought and the characters with a slight change.

"The Habit of Love" Gokhale presented two types of sad stories. The first category presents the urban metropolitan perspective and the second from the subaltern women perspective taking legends into considerations. Gokhale used the history to reconstruct the reality. The characters of these sad stories talk in a sarcastic and humorous tone. The characters are not popular and common stereo type, but they are victims. These characters are very realistic and true to life. Pain, Love and Melancholic attitude in them reflect the intensity of emotions. She used these stories to depict the intellectual and emotional shades of women. Through these stories the novelist appealed women not to subject to the opposite sex and to fight for freedom through which they can create their own identity and individuality.

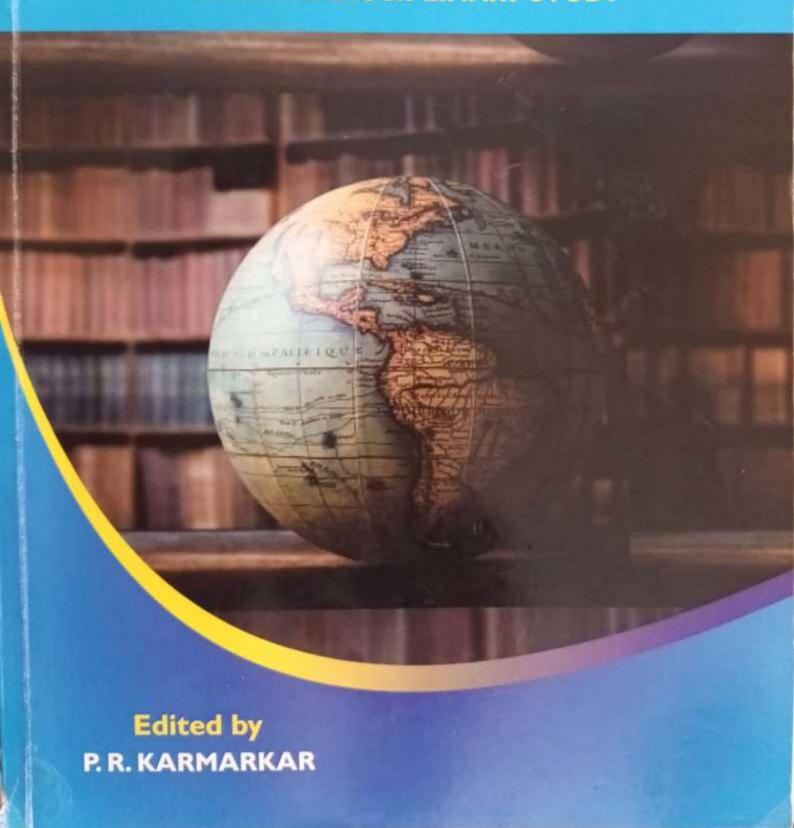
She expressed female sensibility all through her cheaters. She gave voice to the voiceless weaker sex to express their miserable wretchedness, the wounded and broken heart breaks, the despairing, dejection and detachment, the social boycott, and the furious disturbance. The condition of women and the male chauvinistic society compelled Gokhale to portray the agony of women through her novels. Her novels mirrored the lives of victims and the social restrictions imposed up opportunities to redefine themselves

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# LITERATURE AND CULTURE

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## A Comparative Study of Emersonian Doctrine of Infinitude of Private Man and Vedantic Concept of Jeevatma

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"Man is to himself the most wonderful object in nature, for he cannot conceive what the body is, still less what the mind is and least of all how a body should be united to a mind. This is the summation of his difficulties, and yet it is his very being." Undoubtedly, man is a provoking object for every thoughtful person. Man, as an independent or a social being, has been studied by various sciences and philosophies. Besides biological, psychological and sociological studies of man, metaphysical, religious and moral studies of him also contribute in defining man and his relation with the universe. Evolution of all sciences is centred around man. Hence, man is the subject matter of all studies. Various sciences presented different concepts of man. The concept of man has been haunting the scientists and philosophers from the beginning of creation. The main objective of this paper is to examine the concept of man as it is available in two of the outstanding philosophies of the world - Transcendentalism and Advaita Vedanta. Probing into the views of these two philosophies is intellectually interesting. A comparative study adopted in this paper helps in understanding the similar and dissimilar facets of the philosophies. In this research paper, the doctrine of infinitude of private man is in affinity in both the philosophies, Advaita and Transcendentalism. In India, philosophy is about life, it is for man. Here philosophy has been called moksasastra - science of liberation. So there is no question about the ultimate relation of Indian philosophy with human life as a whole.

Of all Indian philosophical systems, Vedanta stands out prominently. No other schools have given so much thought to the being and destiny of man. Transcendentalism, pro founded by Emerson in America and Vedanta propagated by Adi Sankaracharya offered similar concept of infinitude of the private man. In this paper, the concept of man in these two philosophies, their similarities are analyzed. This paper argues how historical and cultural cross-currents have influenced both these philosophies.

R. W. Emerson, a prominent figure in the religio - philosophical history of the world awakened America to its true spiritual, cultural and intellectual heritage. Drawing inspiration from neo - platonic and eastern intellectual traditions, he spoke of one soul that manifests in all beings and one mind common to all. Through his works, he inspired the Americans to search for the truth, freedom and self - reliance. He developed mystic attitude from his childhood due to his spiritual family background. From his Harvard days, he recorded his opinions regarding Hindu scriptures

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and Indian philosophy in his Journals. After renouncing religious position in 1832, he travelled extensively in Europe. During his Europe trip, Emerson gathered valuable knowledge from German idealists and Coleridge. In 1836, Emerson published his magnopus "Nature". Later he delivered lecture famously known as Harvarddivinity school address. These two works helped Emerson to profound the doctrine of infinitude of a private man and he experienced ontological dilemma on giving perfection to it until his encounter with Sankara's Advaita Vedanta in 1845.

"The Over-Soul" was published in 1841 in Essays: First Series. The essay explains the idea of relationship between the soul and God that he first explored in Nature. Unanimously, all the scholars accepted the essay as the classical statement of his religious ideas.

Emerson prefaces his essay with two poetic epigraphs: "Psychozoia, or, the Life of Soul" by Henry More and a selection by Emerson (later published as "Unity"). The selection from More's poem raises the idea of not only the soul of the individual, but also the close relationship of all souls to God. They are related to one another. Emerson's selection builds on this idea, drawing attention to both the constitutive relationship between opposite pairs (e.g., "east and west" and "Night and Day") - like the relationship between the individual soul and God - and the unifying "power / That works its will on age and hour" and infuses "Every quality and pith" (i.e., God, or the "Over-Soul").

While Emerson does not clearly elaborate, his essay displayed four important assumptions on the basis of which he expounded his doctrine: 1) defining the Over-Soul, 2) the relationship between the Over-Soul and society, 3) revelation of the Over-Souland 4) the relationship between the Over-Soul and individuals.

Why, asks Emerson, do we have such extraordinary hopes for human life? Where does our "universal sense of want and ignorance" stem from? Emerson argues they derive from our connection to the Over-Soul. The Over-Soul contains and unites all individual souls, and acts as the animating force behind each individual. "When it breathes through his intellect, it is genius; when it breathes through his will, it is virtue; when it flows through his affection, it is love."

If such a description sounds opaque, Emerson admits to describe the Over-Soul in words is an act of futility, for one can only understand if one yields to and experiences the Over-Soul for oneself. Yet to a certain extent, we are all aware of its presence intuitively in those moments the soul contradicts all normal experience by abolishing time and space. Such moments overpower the human mind, so convinced of the absolute reality of time and space. For example, we are aware of a certain sense of universal and eternal beauty, which "belongs to ages than to mortal life." When we think of a verse of Shakespeare, profound quote by Plato, or the teachings of Jesus, we feel the reach of their divine thought across the centuries in the present.

Nonetheless, our soul can grow to more intimately connect with and experience the Over-Soul. Such growth occurs not by gradation, but by evolution or ascension into a new state of virtue.

As the Over-Soul unites all individual souls, it unites all of society. Such unification manifests itself in the idea of a common nature. When we refer to our common nature in conversations with one another, we do not refer to a social connection, but rather an impersonal one -- in other words, a connection to God.

Beyond our implicit awareness of the Over-Soul though, how do we recognize our soul and its connection to the Over-Soul? Emerson argues the soul manifests itself through revelation. While the popular conception of revelation is of fortune telling, such a practice is low, sinful, and ultimately futile. God will provide no answer to questions of the future, for humans should live in the present and accept "the tide of being which floats us into the secret of nature." Revelation properly understood is instead the "influx of the Divine mind into our mind," and can be seen all across the history of religion. When our soul mingles with the Over-Soul in a moment of revelation, we receive a new truth or perform a great feat. Such moments are filled with the sublime, which leads to obedience to and insight into the Over-Soul.

Our capacity for revelation also allows us to see and know each other. For as we connect with the Over-Soul, we also connect with one another. We can perceive the spirit of our fellow humans. We place our faith in some, yet not others, based on their character, even if we have no foreknowledge of or significant acquaintance with them. "We are all discerners of spirits."

As such, the state of our soul "we shall teach, not voluntarily, but involuntarily." Regardless of superficial qualities like age, actions, or learning, we can distinguish when one has "the tone of seeking" or "the tone of having" an intimate connection with God. In particular, one whose soul has ascended to God is plain and true; has no rose-color, no fine friends, no chivalry, no adventures; does not want admiration; dwells in the hour that now is, in the earnest experience of the common day, - by reason of the present moment and the mere trifle having become porous to thought, and bibulous of the sea of light.

As all can achieve such intimacy with God, Emerson advises we all recognize how God dwells within us. Such recognition does not occur through (established) religion, but rather a personal effort and belief. Indeed, Emerson ends with a critique of established religion, which appeals to the number of its followers, and thus stands on authority, rather than faith itself. To connect with the Over-Soul, one must have faith in oneself, and thus in the soul.

At the time he composed his first book Nature in 1836, Ralph Waldo Emerson was a committed Idealist. This Idealism had been inspired by two primary resources, George Berkeley and Emanuel Swedenborg. From his boyhood reading in Berkeley, Emerson came to believe that the world was not merely material, but was in fact an "idea" in the mind of the Creator. Emerson learned Idealism from Swedenborg, too, but of a different sort. Swedenborg emphasized humanity's entire dependence upon the influx of Spirit, and according to his Neo-Platonism doctrine of emanation, the world was a divine projection through the consciousness of the individual. Thus both of the ontological sources inspiring Nature - Berkeley and Swedenborg - were Idealists, but different in type.

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According to Nature's more objective Berkeleian element, the world of name and form was an idea in the Mind of God that served as the theater of individual "becoming." But there was also the element of subjective Idealism drawn from Swedenborg's Neo-Platonism emancipationism, which held that the world was projected through the individual. Whereas Berkeley was an objective Idealist, Swedenborg was a subjective Idealist, almost a solipsist, with the result that Emerson's Idealism, early in his philosophical career, was a confusion of both. This admixture occasioned conceptual problems in Nature, problems of which Emerson was well aware. He resolved it at last through his close study of Indian philosophy, and especially the concept of Maya.

If matter was really Spirit, then it was incumbent upon the reflective Idealist to provide a coherent account of how it came to pass that, as Emerson put it, "Be makes Seem." Nature presented Emerson's patched together and faulty explanation, one he proved unable to sort out until his readings in Indian philosophy converted him to the mayavada of the celebrated Indian philosopher and saint Sri Sankaracharya. In understanding how the concept of Maya influenced Emerson, and why it was so important, it will help to learn something about the origins of this crucial doctrine in Sankara. Studying him in some detail will be amply rewarded, because Emerson's mature philosophy is very like Sankara's Advaita Vedanta. Emerson and Sankara are very close philosophically, a proximity that increased when the former accepted the latter's mayavada explanation of how "Be makes Seem."

Sankara hammered out the concept of Maya in his great debates with the schools of thought contending in his own day. Sankara's central problem was to uphold non-dualism, and at the same time provide a coherent account of his conception of Brahman, the nature of its causal power, Its relation with illusion or Maya and the cosmos, and finally the connection between Brahman and the individual. Sankara composed his famed exposition and defense of non-dualism during a period of great religious and intellectual ferment.

Sankara rejected the doctrines of subjective Idealism and the ultimate "voidness" of empirical experience. Sankara contended that matter was ultimately nothing other than Brahman, identical in character to the soul. The cosmos was not self-existent and controlled by its own material laws of production and change. This was Sankara's vivartavada explanation of the phenomenal world - the world "appeared" only, leaving Brahman unaffected. A power within Brahman gave rise to the world of name and form, a world which was taken to be real by souls in ignorance but which eventually came to be known as the unreal product of wrong knowledge merely. In truth, both souls and matter were resolvable into the changeless and radically non-dual Brahman.

Sankara rejected ritual as a final means to truth. For him, only the vedicly revealed knowledge of the identity of the soul and Brahman could truly set one free. Gaudapada was the teacher of Govinda, Sankara's own philosophical master. Pivotal to Sankara was Gaudapada's assertion that Maya was the source of the world, and Maya was the key concept that enabled Sankara to bring order and coherence to the mass of Vedic scripture. While Sankara appreciated Gaudapada's

theory of Maya, he found Gaudapada's illusionistic theory too extreme. He modified Gaudapada by articulating a much more world-affirmative position. Earthly experience was not an illusion in the same sense as a dream. Rather, it represented a lower order of knowledge and experience that had its own reality and so teriological value.

How to maintain a strict philosophical non-duality and yet at the same time to uphold a belief in the existence of objects and individuals - this was the central problem for both Sankara and Emerson. Both needed somehow to establish that the realm of name and form depended immediately upon the power of Brahman or the Over soul, that it was not self-existent and controlled by its own laws of production and change. Sankara's solution turned upon the concept of Maya, which he defined as a Sakti or power of Brahman. Brahman, through this creative power, produced multiplicity, making Brahman ultimately both the material and efficient cause of the physical universe.

By describing Maya as such a power, Sankara both denied its independence of Brahman and avoided predicating qualities of Brahman. Thus the essence of Sankara's theory was to argue that a power within Brahman gave rise to the world of name and form, a world which was taken to be real by souls in ignorance but which eventually came to be known essentially as the unreal product of wrong knowledge. Sankara then used the concept of Maya in crucial ways: to develop his cosmology and ontology, and then to apply it to individual so trilogy. In this way he deployed Maya to explain the universe, individual ignorance and suffering, and their final transcendence through Illumination.

Sankara's epistemology was, then, tripartite: lowest was the pratibhasika level of genuine illusions; then the vyavaharika level of empirical public objects produced by the Isvara through the Maya of Brahman and, because of individual avidya or ignorance, misperceived through superimposition to be material/real, and finally he paramarthika or nirguna Brahman level of Absolute non-dual Reality, when self, and world, and Brahman were known to be an identity. Just as knowledge of pratibhasika objects was sublated by the level of vyavaharika, so was vyavaharika sublated by the paramarthika level of true "knowing," when nirguna Brahman became a direct experience.

The notion of sublatability, of less real knowledge being super ceded by knowledge which was more real, was the key to Sankara's concept of nirguna Brahman and its relation to the individual. It is important to understand that for Sankara, the individual jiva had always been Brahman. This identity had been obscured, however, by the soul's ignorance or avidya. Avidya was the individual nescience that caused the jiva to see the Mayic realm of name and form as a material reality. Through avidya, the individual was deluded by the cosmic power of maya. To eliminate individual avidya was to "see through" cosmic Maya, to be freed from its deluding power. When the individual realized his/her true identity as the unchanging Atman, liberation ensued. Atman is the term used in Vedanta to denote the soul's true nature as Brahman. Thus Atman = Brahman, and to "know" this truth was to have pure consciousness, undefined by multiplicity, as a direct experience. Illumination, then, did not "add" something new to the soul. Rather, it removed ignorance of the soul's true nature.

Through Enlightenment, the jiva realized the truth "tat tvam asi," or "that thou art," came to experience directly (anubhava) the identification of its true Atman-nature with the changeless Brahman. The jiva reached the paramarthika level of knowledge, knew that he/she was Brahman, that there was only Brahman, and that his/her perception of multiplicity had been only an illusion, a conjuring trick produced by the Maya of Brahman, which caused the realm of name and form while Itself remaining changeless. This experience could not be known through reason or discursive thought. It was itself its own validation. Once the jiva realized its true nature as the Atman, identical with Brahman, once it realized that the world of name and form was but a conditional reality superimposed upon pure consciousness, no further knowledge was possible. The purpose of human existence had been fulfilled.

Summing up, scripture, reason, and experience were the grounds on which Sankara took his metaphysical stand. He argued that his conception of the Self was true because reason established it as such, scripture established it as such, but finally and most importantly, the direct experience of the individual established it as such. Through immediate mystical experience, the soul came to know these words of Sankara to be highest truth:

"I am verily that Brahman, the One without a second, which is the support of all, which illumines all things, which has infinite forms, is omnipresent, devoid of multiplicity, eternal, pure, unmoved, and absolute. I am verily that Brahman, the One without a second, which transcends the endless differentiations of Maya, is the in-most essence of all, beyond the range of consciousness, - which is Truth, Knowledge, Infinitude, and Bliss Absolute."

Just as Sankara based his entire philosophy on a radical non-dualism, so too Emerson was a non-dualist, his early Idealism having taught him that matter was in truth ultimately Spirit. And just as Sankara had his critics, Emerson had his as well, and without pushing the equation too far, analogies can nonetheless be drawn between those with whom Sankara and Emerson joined issue. Though their critics had very different names, they advanced similar competing cosmologies, all rejected by Emerson and Sankara on parallel non-dual grounds. In the case of Emerson, his primary metaphysical opponents were the religions of the book, the traditions of Abraham Judaism, Christianity, and Islam - all of which held a spirit-matter dichotomy. The Sweden borgians were teaching a subjective form of Idealism. The ritualistic Catholics of Emerson's day were growing rapidly in numbers and influence. The protestants, and especially the "New Divinity" with its revivalist techniques that swept thousands into the Christian fold during Emerson's lifetime. Against all of these Emerson advanced a new world form of non-dualism in harmony with Sankara's Advaita Vedanta.

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Emerson also shared with Sankara the foundational and unchanging belief that the purpose of the spiritual life was Emancipation or Enlightenment, a position fixed from the time he summed up his early Idealist speculations in 1822 with the Hindu poem "Hymn to Narayana." It was this yery idea that inspired Emerson's break with Christianity. He observed that Calvinism was "narrow, "Emerson conflated Hinduism just because he was well aware that it agreed on karma, reincarnation, and the fundamental purpose of human life - to reach Enlightenment - a belief at the opposite pole yearning to escape from limitation into the vast and boundless. . . . Inculcates the tenet of beatitude to be found in escape from all organization and all personality, and makes ecstasy an institution." His own views were in accord with the "wise east-Indian" who "seeks Nirwana or reabsorption, as felicity."

Although both were non-dualists, Emerson and Sankara nonetheless ascribed reality and value to the world of name and form as the path to spiritual perfection. Both agreed that the cosmos must in some sense be real because of its so teriological function. They understood it as the theater of "becoming," the realm in which souls progressed towards Enlightenment. Although Emerson and Sankara advanced different specific means to Liberation, both concurred that there were certain right attitudes and right practices that were essential to spiritual progress, and both held that souls were at different stages of development, with acknowledge appropriate for each stage. For both philosophers, the purpose of life was to progress spiritually through these stages, finally achieving direct experience of non-duality through Illumination. Thus both Emerson and Sankara ascribed a purposive character to earthly experience - to bring souls to Enlightenment. For this reason, the philosophy of both required an objectively existing world that could not be a mere projection of the individual.

What confounded Emerson, however, was the precise relationship between Spirit and the purposive cosmos. He was unclear on how he could maintain a strict philosophical non-duality and yet at the same time uphold a belief in the existence of objects and individuals. At the time he composed Nature, and for some years after, his thinking was confused. In rejecting Christian/Samkhya dualism, he patched together an ontology not unlike Advaita Vedanta with the subjective Idealism of Swedenborg/Vijnanavada Buddhism - mutually contradictory hypotheses. Indian scripture resolved this problem during the 1840s, and brought Emerson finally into Sankara's philosophical camp. It was then that he made the concept of Maya his own, and came to stand squarely in the tradition of Sankara.

As Emerson sat down in his study to solve his problems in Nature, he turned to the ancients for an answer. Initially, he sought help from some of his oldest philosophical friends, his mentors from early Greece. Their wisdom prepared him for his crucial studies in 1845 of Hindu scripture, and one of the most important things to understand about Emerson during the early 1840s was the close interplay between Greek and Indian philosophy. He turned to the venerable authors of

C .

both countries in search of a primordial religious teaching, an ancient form of truth that had been eclipsed, for fifteen centuries, by what Emerson called the Christian parvenus.

Immediately after his penetrating study of the old religion of Greece, Emerson began reading, in 1845, Charles Wilkins' translation of The Bhagvat Geeta, Horace Hayman Wilson's translation of The Vishnu Purána, and Henry Thomas Colebrook's Miscellaneous Essays on Indian philosophy. By the end of 1845, Emerson had come to this conclusion: In 2,500 B.C.E., at the sowing of the seed of the world, the ancient Rishis of India cognized some fundamental truths about human spirituality. Now convinced by his readings in 1845 that Hindu scripture contained ancient and essential truths, Emerson quoted pages and pages from these important texts on the subject of "illusion" and non-duality. Through careful attention to the passages which called forth Emerson's response, and through a diligent tracing of the uses made by him of these provocative passages, will come a better understanding of the way in which the hoary wisdom of India extricated the Concord seer from his philosophical perplexities.

Indian philosophy, however, went beyond the neo-platonists. Whereas they merely asserted that the many was reducible to the One, Indian philosophy, through mayavada, explained the mechanics by which the One appeared as many. It was this explanation that enabled Emerson to break through his metaphysical problems. Thus in 1845, mayavada not only confirmed his basic ontological principles, it also set forth a coherent teaching that made sense of exactly how "Be makes Seem." For this reason, Emerson's extensive reading of Indian philosophy, in the crucial year 1845, resolved at last his ontological dilemma, a dilemma he could have been spared had he not gotten confused by Swedenborg, and had he simply advanced the Indian concept of Maya which he had learned of as early as his Harvard days.

His conversion to mayavada through the religious texts of India strengthened Emerson philosophically and It is not unimportant that he returned to thinking about Plato's explanation of how "Be makes seem" only after Indian philosophy had already given him what was to be his own final answer in its doctrine of "illusion."

Mayavada allowed Emerson's belief in non-duality to retain full force precisely because it explained the phenomenal world as the "deception" of Vishnu, ever identical in nature to the Great Spirit putting it forth. As he reinforced this idea in his chapter "Montaigne,"

We may come to accept it as the fixed rule and theory of our state of education, that God is a substance, and his method is illusion. The Eastern sages owned the goddess Yoga nidra, the great illusory energy of Vishnu, by whom, as utter ignorance, the whole world is beguiled.

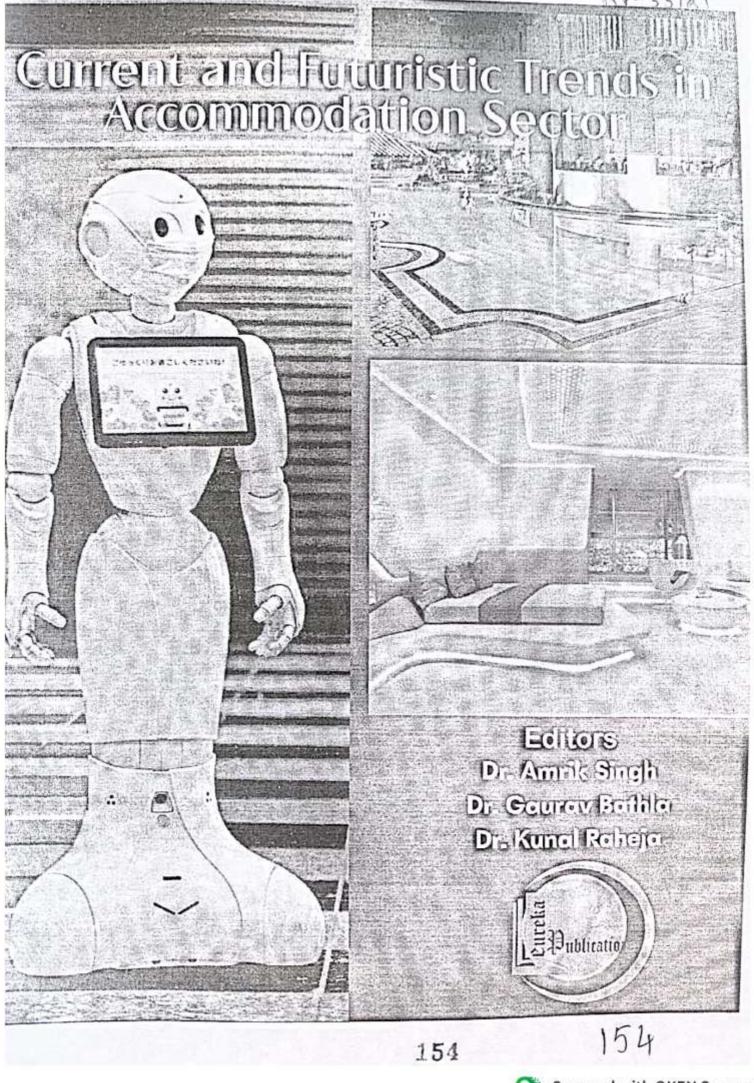
This explanation, that souls were beguiled by the illusory energy of the goddess Yoga nidra, Vishnu's mayic power, resolved finally Emerson's patchwork solution in Nature, and by the time of Representative Men, he had finally abandoned solipsism.

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Emerson not only converted to mayavada in 1845, and made it his ontological answer in Representative Men five years later; it remained a constant doctrine for the duration of his life.

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# Current and Futuristic Trends in Accommodation Sector

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### **Eco-Tourism in India: Some Problems and Prospects**

Dr. M. Balaraju<sup>1</sup>, Dr. M. Thyagaraju<sup>2</sup>

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### Introduction

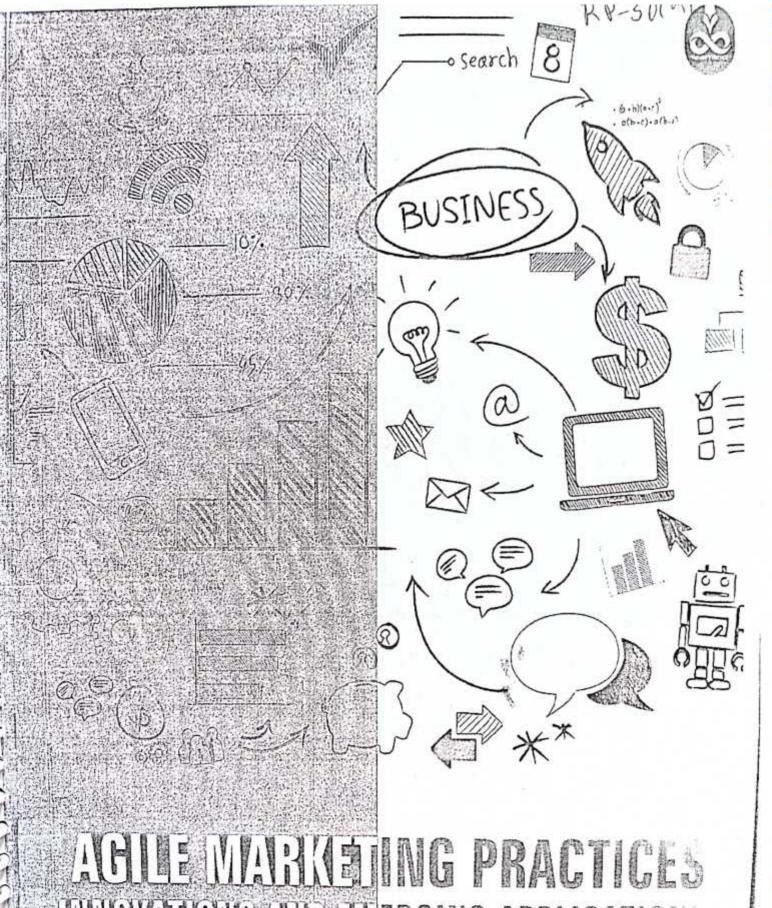
Tourism is fast emerging as a sector which has got immense potential for Bringing in rapid economic development of nations, particularly developing nations like India. India has certain unique features that make it especially suited for taking maximum advantage out of tourism development. In fact, India's uniqueness in attracting the world as one of the most sought after tourism destinations. Ecotourism is entirely a new move towards in tourism industry. Ecotourism is a preserving travel to natural areas to appreciate the cultural and natural history of the environment, taking care not to disturb the integrity of the ecosystem, while creating economic opportunities that make conservation and protection of natural resources advantageous to the local people.

### Principles of Ecotourism

Due to the growing popularity of environmentally related and adventure travel, various types of trips are now being classified as ecotourism. Most of these are not truly ecotourism however because they do not emphasize conservation, education, low impact travel, and social and cultural participation in the locations being visited. Therefore, to be considered ecotourism, a trip must meet the following principles set forth by the International Ecotourism Society:

- 1. Minimize the impact of visiting the location (i.e.- the use of roads)
- 2. Build respect and awareness for the environment and cultural practices
- Ensure that the tourism provides positive experiences for both the visitors and the hosts
- 4. Provide direct financial aid for conservation

Eco-Tourism in India: Some Problems and Prospects



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S. Jayadov K.S. Chandrasekar

D. Mavoothu



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INNOVATIVE MARKETING PRACTICES OF E- TOURISM TRAVEL INDUSTRY IN INDIA

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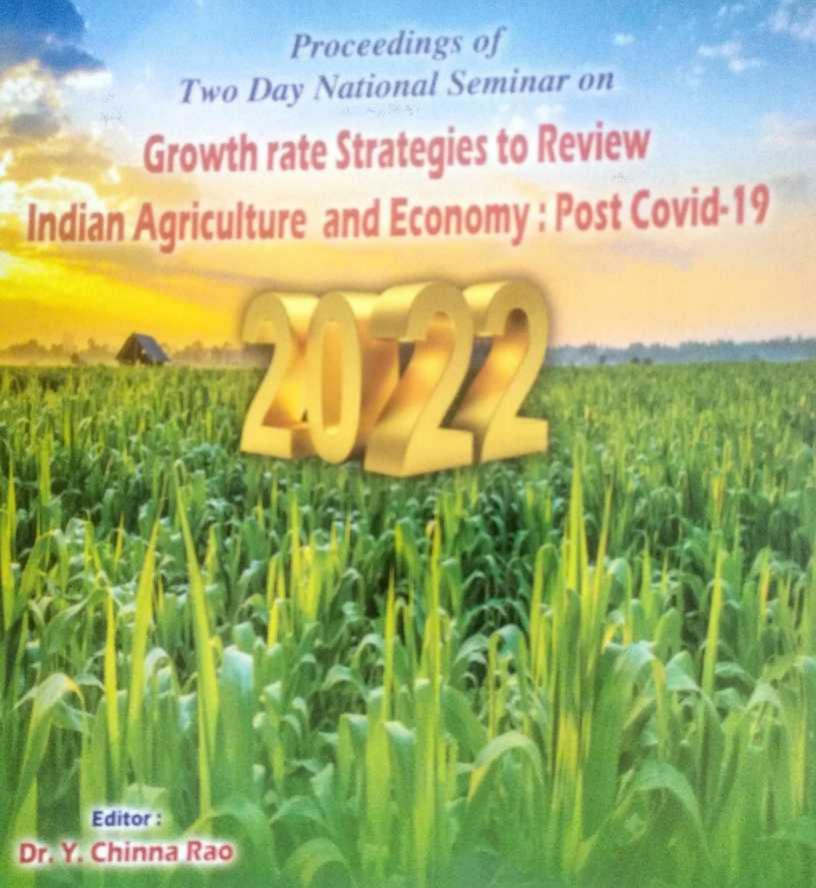
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### Abstract

E-tourism represents the digitization of tourism industry leading to increased competitiveness and to globally expand the tourism agencies. Acceptance of electronic commerce in tourism industry is so large that industry structure and how it operates is changing constantly. The Internet is not only used to obtain information but as a way to command services. Users become their own travel agents and they design their own custom packages. The main objective of this paper is to examine the implications of e-tourism development of tourist industry in the knowledge society As a secondary objective, the present work aims to provide an accounting of travel agencies in Romania that enables customers to personalize the holiday and facilitate quick search on the site of an offer and give online support India truly deserves to be a tourism haven, blessed, as it is, with amazingly diverse natural bounty and tourism-related products catering to the tastes, preferences and budgets of tourists of varied backgrounds. A positive development has been the increasing realization amongst decision makers in India that tourism is not an elitist activity and tourism can be a major engine for economic growth. It is realized that tourism is the largest employment-generating industry. Globally, it generates 200 million direct jobs and accounts for almost 10 percent of the GDP. Tourism forms an integral part of the Indian



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at an aposition processing the latest windre a approximant proportion of the population still deposits on approximate making from become non-making-map have annihilated of agricultural systems in of critical importance. The Merchan of April 1980 and Recal December of Commission a wide range of theoretical, correspond and analysis suppose on the especial emorphic exper in the front of apricultural development. Agricultural fast provide to the kee to accompanie development as a relevance preverty by rathing form incomes, government comprehensive accomplishing the new form economy and nevering prices of ataphy foods. This book contains the agrees considered by reconsiders to the area of agreeotern and allign fields so as to help the readers for their mobile territory is the leavest meeting in the process of approximate development during Count 10 and facilities in be accessed a secretary ground in record years has been further compounded by the COVID-19 pandemb. making the receiving even more challenging. The economic prowth in the past decades has also not boson becoming at the generors of the economy equally and inequalities have been rising. The growth rate of Indian account has prevalented consistently in the recent years from 5 per cent in 2019-20. The outlank for economic access in also improve by the orderest of CONS), 19 pandemic that has affected all the segments and sectors of the occurrent breakthead rate excessionation and expect growth rates decelerated over time. Gross fixed capital reconsisted as our court of GCP declared from 34.2 percent in 2011-12 to 29.0 per cent in 2018-19. Grass dominate savings as on part of GOV asso has been \$4.5 to 30.1 per contributing the same period. Exports have been stagnant around \$300 million since 2011-12. The most significant and the fastest growing sector of Indian economy are services, more hopes, managest and communication, financing, insurance, real estate and business services and commission by social and personal services account his more than 60 percent of GDP. Agriculture, forestry and soling consistive around 12 per cent of the output, but employs more than 50 per cent of the labour force \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Av. 15 per cent of GDP, construction for another 8 per cent and mining, quarrying, ancounty, gas and water supply for the remaining 5 per cent. High non-performing assets of banks (NPAs), low product growth, global factors particularly for trade, non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) problems, low securitive and tural incomes were responsible for slowdown. Construction sector also showed slowdown Policies have to be framed to revive private sector investment, consumption and exports. Fiscal and monetary policies of the government should also stimulate growth. The book will be particularly useful for the students of appropriate and research and re makers planners administrators and those engaged in agricultural and allied activities. It will also help researchers in these fields.

#### About the Author



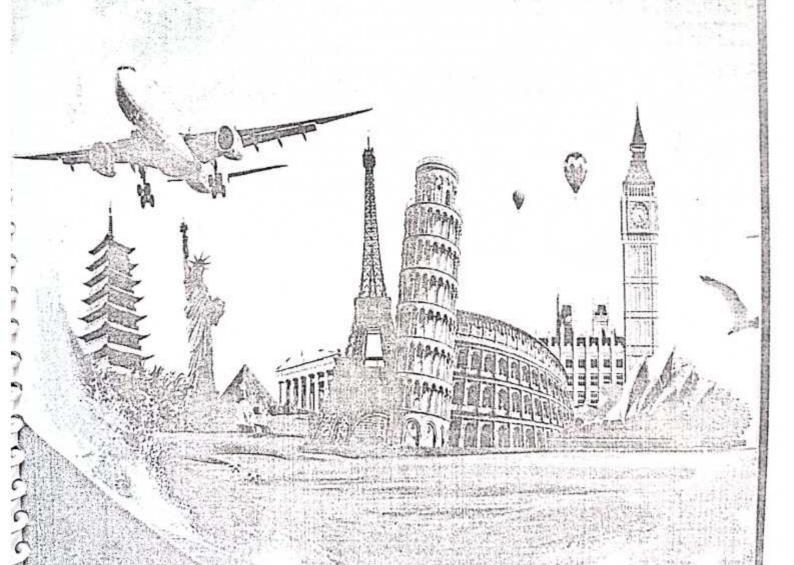
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# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH TOURISM



DA RAVI AKULA DA M. VENKAT RAMANA REDI

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## Travel and Tourism Contribution to Indian Economy

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### Abstract

Tourism in India is important for the country's economy and is growing rapidly. The World Travel and Tourism Council calculated that tourism generated Rs.16.91 lakh crore (US\$210 billion) or 9.2% of India's GDP in 2018 and supported 42.673 million jobs, 8.1% of its total employment. The sector is predicted to grow at an annual rate of 6.9% to Rs.32.05 lakh crore (US\$400 billion) by 2028 (9.9% of GDP). In October 2015, India's medical tourism sector was estimated to be worth US\$3 billion, and it is projected to grow to US\$7-8 billion by 2020. In 2014, 184,298 foreign patients travelled to India to seek medical treatment.

The World Economic Forum's Travel and Tourism Development Index 2021, which th out

of 117 countries overall the country also scored high on natural resources (ranked 14th), and cultural resources and business travel

The Ministry of Tourism designs national policies for the development and promotion of tourism. In the process, the Ministry consults and collaborates with other stakeholders in the sector including various central ministries/agencies, state governments, union territories and private sector representatives. Concerted efforts are being made to promote niche tourism products such as rural, cruise, medical and eco-tourism. The Ministry of Tourism maintains the Incredible India campaign focused on promoting tourism in India.

Keywords: Travel and Tourism, Economic Growth,

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Tourism is one of the fastest-growing sectors that has a significant impact on the Indian economy. It is an ever-growing industry with bright and high potential job opportunities across the globe. Recent studies reveal that the tourism industry will create around 46 million job opportunities in the coming year

Research conducted by the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) has revealed the travel and tourism sector's contribution to the Indian economy could surpass pre-pandemic levels this year, with a year-on-year growth of 20.7%.

Proceedings of the Two Day National Seminar on "Role of Tourism in Sustainable Development" 25" & 27" October, 2022 field at Mahaima Gandhi University, Nationals.