



AGRO-TOURISM: OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE FARMERS IN PARGOAN SUDRIK VILLAGE OF SHRIGONDA TAHSIL

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ABSTRACT

India is the country of the villages. Above 6.5 lacks villages are in India. Agriculture is major occupation of the country. Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy. 70 % people of the India depend upon directly or indirectly on the agriculture. Agro-tourism is opportunity for the farmers to increase their income. Agrotourism providing live experience of various farm activities and agricultural background. Agro-tourism could become a good opportunity for additional and regular income to the farmers of Indian village. Agro-tourism also contribute the social development of Indian village. Infact it is opportunity for PargoanSudrik farmers of Shrigonda tehsil. If the Agro-tourism opportunity runs succsesfully in PargoanSudrik village it could increase the economic stability of the farmers and the people. PargoanSudrik is the famous village of the Shrigonda tehsil for Agriculture which attract the urban tourist. This research paper studies the future opportunities as well as existing scenario and the limitation for agro-tourismPargoan Sudrik village in Shrigonda tehsil.

Keywords: Agriculture, Agro-tourism, economic stability.

INTRODUCTION

Tourism play an important role in the growth of economies of the various countries in the world. As well as several countries have upgradetheir economies by developing their tourism potential. Agrotourism has great potential to generate large scale employment and income sources for rural farmers and peoples. Today the concept of Agro-tourism has been bring direct and indirect benefits to the farmers and people of villages. Agro-tourism provides great opportunities for the every agricultural developed village. Pargoan Sudrik the agricultural village of Shrigondatahsilwell known for theirgrapes, and vegetables and also the techniques.

The agricultural development of Pargoan Sudrik village create additional source of income and employment opportunities to the farmers. In Shrigonda tehsil the Pargoan Sudrik is one of the major agriculture centers which have a lot of opportunities of agro-tourism in future.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives are follows:

- To examine the opportunities of agro-tourism in PargoanSudrik village of Shrigonda tehsil.
- To identify a suitable framework for the agro-tourism centers in Pargoan village.
- To identify the problems of the agro-tourism and make suggestions to establishment and operations of agro-tourism in Pargoan village of Shrigondatehsil.

HYPOTHESIS

The hypothesis of the study is the agro-tourism is an opportunity for the farmers. It increases the income source and employment opportunity to the farmers and rural peoples. It is the new

idea for agriculture. There is need of such types of activities in the Pargoan village of Shrigondatehsil.

IMPORTANCE OF THE STUDY

Agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy, but now a day's agriculture is unprofitable occupation. The income of agriculture is uncertain due to the irregular monsoon, prices fluctuations of life of farmers. Some innovative activities like agro-tourism need to improvement and implement.

Agro-tourism helps to improve the knowledge of urban people of towards the agricultural activities. The restricted urban people in the flats, offices can see the nature of the village they known about the rural culture through the agro-tourism.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The scope of the study is limited to examine the benefits and applicability of agro-tourism in pargoansudrik village. The study includes their benefits and problems. As well as it includes appropriate framework regarding to establish the agro-tourism centres in the pargoansudrik village.

The present study was conducted on the agro-tourism is based on secondary data. The data has been furnished from the Tehsil office, Grampanchayat of pargoanvillage, Talathi office of pargoan village as well as agriculture office of Shrigonda Tehsil. Some ideas have been taken from the Tourism Development Corporation of Maharashtra.

CONCEPT OF AGRO-TOURISM

Agro-Tourism is the term which related rural culture as a tourist attraction. It is the job generating activity. It is also increase the

income of rural people. The tourism and agriculture is related with environment and society. It employing directly and indirectly 8% of the global workforce.

Definition of Agrotourism by Maharashtra Agriculture and Rural Tourism Federation (MART), is- It is the holidays concept of visiting farm or any agricultural, horticultural, or agribusiness operations for the purpose of enjoyment, education, or active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation. Agrotourism is the place where the urban tourist come and spend their holidays in a village, it is the home giving a fill of rural culture. It gives the benefits to the farmers and villagers.

WHO CAN START AGRO-TOURISM CENTRES

The individual farmer can start agro-tourism who have minimum one hector land, farm house, water resource and his interest. Apart from the Group of farmers individual farmer, agricultural co-operatives institute, Non-Government organizations may start their centers. As well as Grampanchayats can start such centers in their operational areas with the help of villagers and farmers.

REQUIREMENTS FOR AGRO-TOURISM CENTRES

Researcher has identified the minimum requirements for the agro-tourism center. To develop an agro-tourism in their farm, the farmer / farmers must have basic infrastructure and facilities in their farm as follows:

- Accommodation facilities at same place or alliance with nearest hotels.
- Farmhouse, with rural look
- Rich resources of water and plants at the place.
- Cooking equipment for cooking food.
- Medical centers.
- Goat farm, green House.
- Offer fruits (Grapes, Banana, Mango etc.) corns, groundnuts, sugarcane

LOCATION OF PARGOAN SUDRIK AGRO-TOURISM CENTRE

Location is most the important factor for success in the agro-tourism. The location of the Pargoan Sudrikan easy to arrive and have a good natural background. Urban tourists are interested into enjoying the nature and rural life. So, farmers should develop their centre in the rural areas. It is occure bank of small local Saraswati river. It is away from the Pune about 110km and from Ahmednagar it is away about 66km. Belwandi is the nearest railway station, Which is about 6km. It is 15km away from the Shrigonda tehsil. It is well connected by the

buses, the places which are already tourist center like Shiddhatek the famous temple of lord Ganesha, the Shaikh Mahamad baba temple. The temple city Shrigonda, Visapur Tank etc.

PROBLEMS OF THE AGRO-TOURISM IN PARGOAN SUDRIK VILLAGE

Pargoan sudrik has a greater potential of the development of the agro-tourism centers due to the good natural and climatic conditions. But there are some problems in the process of agro tourism development in the Village. Major challenges and problems are follows;

- Lack of perfect knowledge about the agro-tourism
- Weak communication skill and lack of commercial approach of the small farmers
- Lack of capital to develop basic infrastructure for the agro-tourism
- Ignorance of the farmers.
- Farmers have small size holding, low quality land

CONCLUSIONS AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Pargoan Sudrik has a great potential to the development of agro-tourism, because of natural conditions and different types of agri products. It is a good opportunity to develop an agro-tourism business in Pargoan sudrik. But there is a problem of low awareness about Agrotourism in the farmer and problem of the finance and proper view in the farmers of the Pargoan sudrik. Hence, the agriculture departments of the Tehsil, districts, Agriculture Universities should try to give orientation about it and provide some innovative ideas regarding to the Agro-Tourism. The government should try to provide optimum financial aids to the agro-tourism activities in Pargoan sudrik.

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