# PAPER ON TOURISM POTENTIAL IN RAGHUNATHPUR CIRCUIT, PURULIA DISTRICT

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# Abstract:

Tourism is the kind of activity done for a limited period of time for the leisure, family or business purposes. Purulia constituted on 1876 has immense potential for tourism flourishness. But lack of awareness, advertisement and ignorance from the government create hindrance for flourishing the Purulia as a eminent tourist place. Here I try to emphasize upon the Importance of Raghunathpur Circuit which might be the real heartbeat of Purulia District in developing it as a popular tourist spot. I also try to give a developmental framework at the conclusion.

**<u>KEYWORDS</u>**: Tourism, Raghunathpur, carrying capacity

# **<u>1. INTRODUCTION:</u>**

Purulia came into being as a district of West Bengal in 1956. Purulia is the westernmost district of West Bengal with all-India significance because of its tropical location, its shape as well as function like a funnel. It funnels not only the tropical monsoon current from the Bay to the subtropical parts of north-west India, but also acts as a gateway between the developed industrial belts of West Bengal and the hinterlands in Orissa, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh.

Raghunathpur is the subdivisional town in the Purulia District. The circuit covers the Raghunathpur I, Raghunathpur II, Santuri, Nituria, and Para Block. It is basically drought prone region but it is characterized by the historical and cultural heritage.

# 2. <u>REVIEW OF LITERATURE:</u>

The territory of present Raghunathpur Circuit was the part of the Banga, one of the 16 mahajanapads in India(*www.wilkipidea.org*). It is one of the oldest district in West Bengal and has a rich cultural heritage. Initially it was named as the Bajrabhumi but after that it ultimately becomes a part of Jangal Mahal (*Paye Paye Purulia by Subhas Roy, also cited in* 

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Bharatonline.com ). The different Phases of Purulia as well as Raghunathpur circuit is characterized by different time scales as well as cultural frame.

The total area of Raghunathpur circuit have two major drainage system which also emphasize its scenic beauty. Subarnarekha and Kangsabati are the two major rivers which also help to increase the economic benefits of the circuit (purulia.nic.in, official website of Purulia district).

Raghunathpur Circuit has possibility to grow up as the archaeological and eco-tourist spot (purulia.nic.in official website of purulia district). Banda, Cheliama, Deulghata, Pakbirra, Para, Baghmundi, Birinchinath, Budhpur, Charra Telkupi has the clear archaeological evidence as well as scenic beauty to attract tourists (D.I.C.O. Purulia)

According to *D.I.C.O. Purulia*, the archaeological evidences of the above places as follows:

- **1.**Banda has a solitary temple with the rekho style bearing the middle eastern Islamic influences.
- 2. Cheliama has a temple richly decorated with Terra Cotta
- **3.** Deulghata has ruins of some 15 temples and small shrines near the Kansai River.
- 4. Pakbirra has only three temples are standing in the Nagara order.
- 5. Para has pre-muslim deuls in the East.
- 6. Baghmundi has Pancharatna Shiva Temple.
- 7. Birinchinath has the evidence of rekho deul here.

8. Telkupi has many jain shrines but they are flooded due to unplanned water release by Damodar Valley Corporation.

(Source: Purulia.nic.in, official website of Purulia district, also cited in D.I.C.O Purulia)

# **3.SELECTION OF THE STUDY AREA:**

The inspiration of selection of Raghunathpur circuit, Purulia District as our camp site comes from fascinating physical and cultural landscape of Purulia District, West Bengal. Particularly in Western Purulia the backwardness prevails because the land is not very suitable for agricultural production. In the absence of big industries there is dominants of the primary sector in the country inspire of unsatisfactory returns. As West Bengal is lagging behind in term of tourism promotion in comparison with many other States of India, the study region is selected as a planning region to study for further development.



#### **4.OBJECTIVE OF STUDY**:

- 1. To evaluate the status of tourism resources in the study area.
- 2. To investigate the problem associated to tourism growth in the area
- 3. To contribute development of plans for sustainable tourism development.

### **5.METHODOLOGY**:

The methodology of our field study is geographically based on data collection and its representation with the help of GIS and cartographic techniques. The data have been quantitative as well as qualitative particularly on the status of tourism attraction. Quantitative data have been generated through this field study for future planning. Methodology for this particular field work may be designated as a work of regional planning under geography of tourism.

Finally it is concluded that our work is a group effort covering a no. of destinations individually and collectively we are persecuting the study for the district as a whole. Due to shortage of time and fund as no one was sponsoring us, it was not possible for us to cover all the tourism resources of the study region. So, we have selected only potential sites in order to prepare developmental plan for them.

#### **6.DATA SOURCES:**

Data has been collected from various primary and secondary sources include the Census Reports, District Handbooks and Websites. The primary sources are questionnaire survey and interviews.

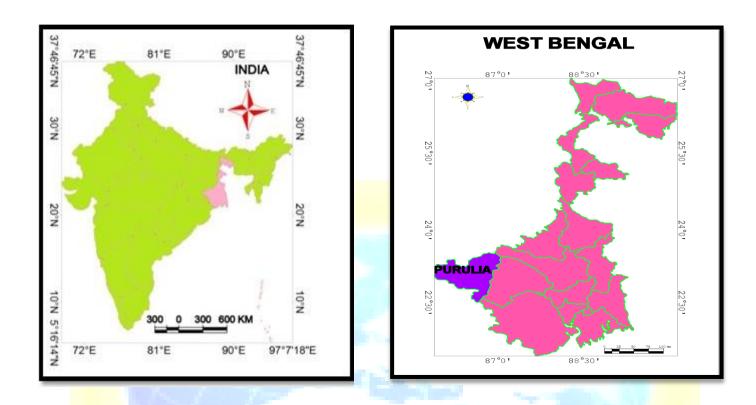
# **7.LOCATION MAP OF THE STUDY AREA**

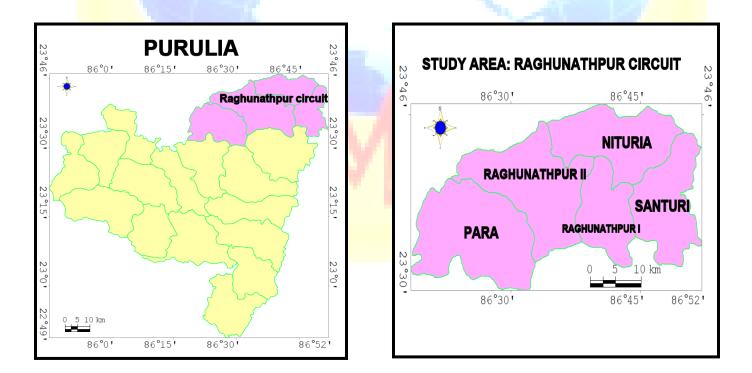




# Volume 5, Issue 6



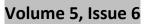




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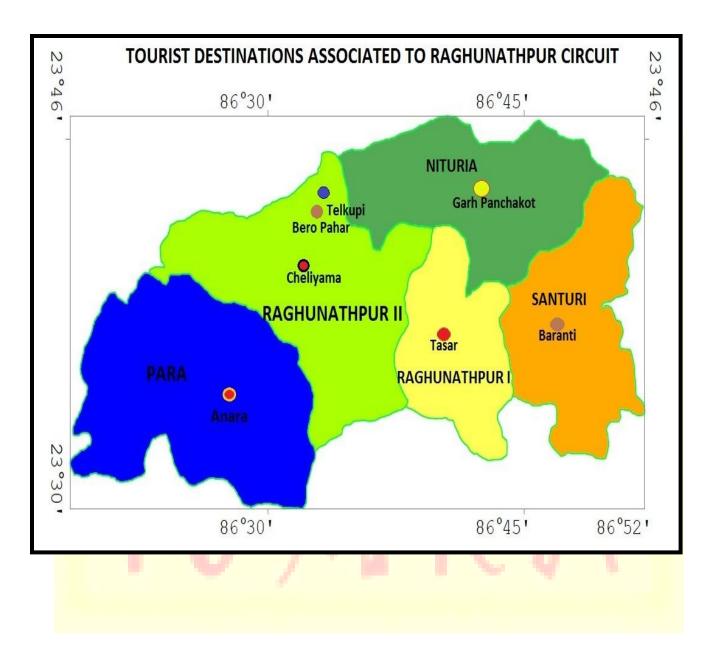
319





ISSN: 2249-5894

**8.TOURIST DESTINATIONS:** 



# **8.1BERO PAHAR: A SIGHT FOR ROCK CLIMBING AND TOURISM**

# 8.1.1 INTRODUCTION:

Within the block of Bero there is a village named Bero, by covering this village there are Bero, Khalichandi and Somali hill.

# **8.1.2 LOCATION:**

Bero is famous for rock climbing and in the associated part of the Khalaichandi hill there is an ashrom of Sukhram Baba. It is about 13 km. away station is Bero and busstand Kharbera.

# 8.1.3 HOW TO REACH:

One can reach Bero pahar by car from Raghunathpur.

#### **8.1.4 REGIONAL HISTORY**:

Bero hill is known as Khalaichandi in the Purulia. Somebody tells it as Chandi Hill and again somebody tells it Bero Pahar. Bero village is the village of Panchakot king due to plying with stieks in this place, thus known as Khalaichandi. Climate change causes the evolution of the region and makes this place, at present condition coarse structure of the soil, helps to grow cactus here.



#### **8.1.5 LOCAL ATTRACTION:**

In this region the scenic beauties are-

- 1. The Sukhram Baba Temple.
- 2. The rock climbing held from 25 December to 1<sup>st</sup> January.
- 3. Mechanical and Biological weathering existence of this region.

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Volume 5, Issue 6

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# **8.2RECREATION TOURISM: A STUDY AT PANCHET**

#### 8.2.1 INTRODUCTION:

Panchet dam was constructed across the Damodar River at Panchet in Dhanbad district in the Indian state of Jharkhand and opened in 1959.

#### **8.2.2 COORDINATES:**

23°40 41" N and 86°44 49" E.

#### 8.2.3 HOW TO REACH:

Panchet Dam can be reached by rail, bus or local transport. The nearest railway station to Panchat dam is Kumar dhubi about 10 km. from here.



# **8.2.4 MAJOR ATTRACTION:**

- 1. Damodar River
- 2. 16 Lock gates
- Ũ
- 3. Panchet hill
- 4. Neheru Park near Panchet dam
- 5. Eco-Zoological Park.

# 8.2.5 ECO PARK:

The park was constructed in 2008. There is no entry fee. The entry time is 8:00 a.m.to 12:00 p.m.

#### 8.2.6 FISH CULTURE:

Fishes like catla, Rohu, Mrigal and L.Calbasu are found in Panchet reservoir.









# **8.3VILLAGE TOURISM: A STUDY IN BARANTI**

### 8.3.1 INTRODUCTION:

Baranti is a small picturesque hamlet by a beautiful lake surrounded by hillocks and forests.

#### **8.3.2 LOCATION:**

Baranti is a small hamlet extended from  $23^{\circ}34 \square 12''$  N to  $23^{\circ}35 \square 50''$ N and  $86^{\circ}49 \square 55''$ E to  $86^{\circ}51 \square 40''$ E.

# 8.3.3 HOW TO REACH:

At first reach Adra, then from Adra one can proceed to Muradi by roadways or railways.

# **8.3.4 BARANTI AN IDEAL DESTINATION FOR NATURE LOVERS:**

The major natural attractions of Baranti village are as follows –

1. The stand still water of the reservoir look like a large blue tinted glass mirror reflecting, the vast expanse of sky over it.

2. Muradi Hill at one side and Baranti Hill on the other.

3. The amazing view of sunset with the lake.

# **8.3.5 MORE IN STORE FOR BARANTI:**

- 1. Jaychandi hills (21 km)
- 2. Panchet dam (22 km)
- 3. Mithyon dam (38 km)
- 4. Raghunathpur tasar silk industry (19 km)
- 5. Tribal Dance, a tradition of tribal society.





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# **8.4REGIONAL HISTORY AND TOURISM: A STUDY AT GARH PANCHKOT**

### 8.4.1 LOCATION:

Garh Panchkot is located in the eastern part of India at the foot hill of Panchkot in the district of Purulia, West Bengal.

#### 8.4.2HOW TO REACH:

1. From Adra rail station – Garh Panchkot is just 28 km via Raghunathpur.

2. From Asansole Railway station – Garh Panchkot is just 34 km via Parbelia – Disergarh.

# **8.4.3 HISTORY OF THE PLACE:**

As the name suggest 'Garh' means a fort in Sanskrit. The Panchkot Raj constructed 'Garh' Panchkot mainly for defense Purposes. There is enough evident that, Garh Panchkot was attacked by the 'Maratha men', they are known as 'Bagri'. It was believed that all the 17 wives of the king committed suicide in a nearby well during the attack. Science this time, the ruins of 'Garh Panchkot' Palace is a 'Silent testimony 'to the Bargi attack during the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

#### **8.4.4 TEMPLES**:

There are two distinctive architectural styles

- 1. Bishnupuri style (Terracotta style).
- 2. Older architectural style of using stone

blocks.

# 8.4.5 PRESENT CONDITION OF THIS PLACE:

Since the Barge attack, this place lies in ruins –

This place now mainly use as pasture land.

It is used for picnic.

Tourists visit this place for some time there is no staying facility and environment.



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324

#### June 2015



Volume 5, Issue 6



# **8.5TASAR AND TOURISM: A STUDY IN RAGHUNATHPUR**

# **8.5.1 INTRODUCTION:**

Silk is the queen of textile. There are four major type of silk of commercial importance. These are Mulbery, Tasar, Muga and Eri. Except mulberry, other varieties of silk are generally termed as Non-mulberry silk. Tasar silk is generated by the silk worm, Antheaea Mylitta. Tourism as well as Raghunathpur in Puruliya known as "2-T" for tasar and tourism.



# **8.5.2 LOCATION:**

Raghunathpur town is located in 23°33' north latitude and 86°40' east. Para block is situated south east part, kashipur block in south east part, Nituria block in north east and Santuria in eastern part of Raghunathpur town.

#### **8.5.3 OBJECTIVES:**

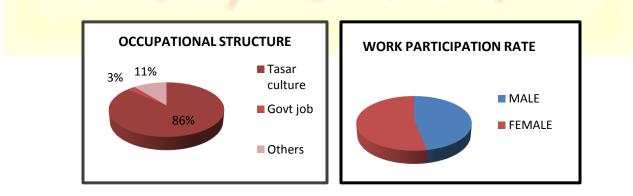
- To study the current position and situation of Tasar business.
- To explain and study the market condition of Tasar silk.
- To explain and study the village cottage industry of Tasar silk.
- To extend the field of tourism based on Tasar silk.

# **8.5.4 DESCRIPTION OF TASAR SILK:**

The term 'Tasar' has been apparently derived from the Sanskrit word 'Trasara' meaning shuttle. Tasar is a type of silk produced by the Wild Silk Moths. Tasar silk is another insects variety of silk secreted by Antherea Tasar moth.

# **8.5.5 TASAR SILK PRODUCTION AT RAGHUNATHPUR:**

Raghunathpur town in Purulia districts is still famous for its Tasar reeling and weaving industry. The weavers of this town and its adjacent village Tantipara and Patarpara are basically engaged in weaving plain Tasar. Weaving is carried by individual weave as well as by co-operative society.





# **8.6BIRINCHINATH: A SAIBATIRTHA WITH TOURISM POTENTIAL**

# **8.6.1INTRODUCTION:**

Birinchidham, an archeological site with natural beauty situated in southern part and Panchakot Pahar. Among the various Saibatirtha of west Bengal, Birinchinath dham of Purulia district is well known for its underground Shiv-linga.

#### 8.6.2 LOCATION:

Birinchinath dham was located in the opposite side of the Panchet Dam in the south eastern slope of Ponchokoat pahar. The temple is near about 20-22 km from Raghunathpur town, under the police station of Nituria, Purulia district.

#### **8.6.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

Birinchinath dham is an archeological site with natural beauty. The temple is five hundred years ancient. It was Panchokoat raj whose capital was Debbari, founded the shivlinga at Birinchinath dham with the help of Bhattachariya family. There are seven avatar i.e. Jogomaya, Gouranga, Bishnu, Kali, Hanuman, Kaivairab in the same umbrella. It was believe the natural spring coming out from 'patal' usually a 'Purnakhetra' for the pilgrims.



8.6.4 MAIN ATTRACTION:

Underground Shivalinga, Natural spring, seven avatars under the same umbrella, Surrounding Panchokoat hill, Iron-sponge industry, Shivaratri mela in the Bengal month of 'Srabon', Dol festivals, 24 prohar kirton, etc. are main attraction of Birinchinath dham.







# **8.7FOLKLORE AND TOURISM: A STUDY IN THE SHRINE OF KATYAYINI**

### **8.7.1 INTRODUCTION:**

'Katyayini' is the sixth form amongst the 'Nabadurga' or the ninth form of Hindu Goddess 'Parvati' or 'Shakti' worshipped during the Navaratri festival.

# **8.7.2 LOCATION:**

Katyayini temple of Cheliyama is situated at the distance of 12.2 km. away from Raghunathpur, in Purulia.

#### **8.7.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

According to historians the Katyayini Devi actually a Jain ruler Goddess or Jain tantric goddess but gradually Hindu Brahmins became engaged in the worship of Katyayini and hence became popular as Hindu Katyayini Devi.

# **8.7.4 SPECIAL ATTRACTION:**

The main attraction of the temple is its structure. The entire temple is built on a large stone. The surrounding water logged area also enhances its beauty.





# 8.7.5 OTHER CULTURAL FEATURES:

- 1. The region in association of the temple has been widely used for picnic.
- 2. To respect Katyayini Devi Kirtan has been arranged at least 5-7 times in a month.
- 3. The place becomes attractive as a tourist spot during Poush Parbon.





# **8.8ECO ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN: A NEW HORIZON IN TOURISM**

#### **8.8.1 INTRODUCTION:**

This is an attractive Eco-Zoological garden, especially known as snake rescue and rehabilitation centre.

#### 8.8.2 LOCATION:

It is located at Jhatibazar, district Dhanbad, state Jharkhand, 3 km. away from the Panchet Dam. This area is located at 23°40′14′′ N and 86°44′49′′ E.

#### **8.8.3 MAIN ATTRACTION:**

8.8.3.1 SNAKE:

8.8.3.1.1 (NON-VENOMOUS):

Vine Snake, Water Python, Rock Python, Ornamental Snake, Russell Sand Boa.



Emu bird, Indian Roller, Hen etc.



8.8.3.1.2 (VENOMOUS):

Spectacled Cobra, Monocled Cobra, Russell's viper.

8.8.3.2 BIRD:



<u>8.9</u> TO

**URISM IN JAINSHRINS IN RAGHUNATHPUR CIRCUIT** 



# 8.9.1INTRODUCTION:

Telkupi is a famous tourist spot for those people who have interest about Jain temple or Jain Goddess. This region is partly submerged under water and have some Jain temples scattered here and there.

# 8.9.2LOCATION:

Telkupi is located under Raghunathpur sub-division and 8 km. away from Raghunathpur Town.

Coordinates: 23°38' N and 86°35' E



# 8.9.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

In the study area there was about twenty temples before submerged under water due to the construction of Panchet Dam which were seemed to have been constructed between the 11<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> century.



# **8.9.4 MAJOR ATTRACTIONS:**

The main attraction of this area is the Jain Shrines located there. Due to the creation of Panchet Dam the entire area submerged under water which enhances its beauty. The structure and design of the temple are other things to look at.



# ISSN: 2249-589

# **8.10MAITHON: A POPULAR NATURE TOURISM SIGHT**

#### 8.10.1 INTRODUCTION:

DVC is the first ever multipurpose river valley project of independent India. Maithon dam is one of the most important dams of DVC, made in 1957 on the river Baraker.

#### 8.10.2 HISTORY:

In the post independence times the river Damodar and its tributary cause several flood in the region. After independence the Indian Govt. take a step to solve this problem and found a multipurpose river valley project that is DVC. Finally the first dam of independent India come in 1959, the Maithon Dam constructed in the year of 1957.



#### 8.10.3 LOCATION:

Maithon Dam is located on the boundary between west Bengal and Jharkhand. The Maithon dam located at 48 km from Dhanbad in the state of Jharkhand.

#### 8.10.4 KEY ATTRACTION OF THIS AREA:

The main attraction that responsible for this area development is like bellow-

#### 8.10.4.1 BOATING:



Boating is the main attraction to the tourists in Maithon. Tourists easily access this facility and reach near the island for picnic or another cause.

#### 8.10.4.2 ISLAND:

Due to reservoir construction the area sink down and the top

of the hill is formed the present island. This area is mainly forest cover and the tourist attracted for the natural beauty.

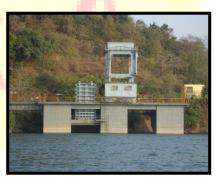
#### 8.10.4.3 DEER PARK:

A deer park is also a attractive field of this area which is located just opposite of the dam.

#### 8.10.4.4 MAITHON DAM:

This is another attractive feature to the tourist. The dam is famous for its natural beauty. Blue water, green hills and colorful flowers surely is the main reason for tourist attraction









# 8.11KALYANESWARI TEMPLE: A STUDY IN RELIGIOUS TOURISM

#### **8.11.1 INTRODUCTION:**

In India, since time immemorial, tourism has been associated with space of religious significance. These destinations are scattered all over the country. *Kalyaneswari* Temple is one of them.

#### **8.11.2 LOCATION:**

Kalyaneshwari Temple is located at 23°46'38"N and 86°49'42"E, under Assansol Municipality, in the district of Burdwan.

#### **8.11.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**



Kalyaneshwari is a 500-year old centre of *Shakti* worship. Legend has it that human sacrifices were offered at Kalyaneshwari in the remote past. The present temple, however, is not very old and was constructed by Panchakot Raj.Once upon a time there was dense forest and the Goddess was worshiped by the dacoits. It is also believed that sometime this dacoits use to kill humans and offer them to the Goddess.

#### 8.11.4 FESTIVALS:

Tourist can worship everyday in this temple. Fair is organized in *Durga puja* and *Poila magh*. Sometimes

*Kumari puja* is also organized on the day of Durgasaptomi.

#### **8.11.5 MAJOR ATTRACTIONS:**

**8.11.5.1MAA KAALI TEMPLE:** Kalyaneshwari Temple is one of the oldest temples of mother *Kaali in West Bengal*.

**8.11.5.2** AN OLD 'NEEM' TREE: is situated at the middle of the temple.

**8.11.5.3 SHIVA TEMPLE:** *Shiva* temple is another attraction of Kalyaneshwari temple.

**8.11.5.4 BHAIRAB TEMPLE:** *Bhairab* Temple is the major temple of Kalyaneshwari Temple.

**8.11.5.5 MAITHON DAM:** Maithon dam is major attraction of Kalyaneshwari temple, which is 3 km away from temple in Dhanbad, Jharkhand. There you can enjoy beautiful sight of dam water, forest view, boating and picnic.

**8.11.5.6 SMALL STREAM:** A small stream flows near the temple. This is another attraction of this temple.



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Volume 5, Issue 6



#### **8.12TOURISM POTENTIAL IN BIHARINATH: A STUDY**

# **8.12.1 LOCATION:**

Biharinath Hill, highest (459 meters) hill of Bankura district and one of the dense forests of this district, is situated in Saltora, Bankura district, West Bengal, and Mahatirtha Biharinath Dham is situated in the foothills of Biharinath. It is situated about 60 km north-west of Bankura town and 14 km north east of Saltora town. The geographical location is 23°34'29"N and 86°56'29''E.



# 8.12.2 HISTORY OF MAHATIRTHA BIHARINATH DHAM:

The Shiva temple Mahatirtha Biharinath Dham was established by king of Kashipur Sankari Prasad Mahasingha at least 200 years ago. There is a myth that the "Lingam" of the main temple was come out from the underground. At the primary stage the temple was constructed by lime and brick dust. The first priest was Shaktipada Deghoriya. Deghoriya family engages for for the puja in this temple from 6-7 generation.

# **8.12.3 DESCRIPTION OF THE TEMPLE:**

The temple was reconstructed by marbel with the help of a person in Dullarvpur 14-15 years ago. There are also 7 other temple excluding the main Shiva Temple. The other temple are Durga, Kali, Parbati, Vishnu, Vairabnath, Radha-Krishna, Nandi, which were constructed letter i.e. after establishment of the main Shiva temple. There is also a holy pond in front of the gate of the Temple, called "Shiva Ganga Ghat". The pond is used for bathing of "Mahadev" or "Lingam". This pond is restricted for any other human activity. The temple opens in the morning at 6.30 am and close in the evening at 7 pm. The Arati is done in the evening at 6.30 pm. There is also a good system for providing "Vog" in daily basis.

# 8.12.4 FESTIVALS & FAIRS IN BIHARINATH:

- "Shivratri Fair" on Chaturdashi of Falgun month (February-March),
- "Makuri Saptami Fair",
- "Gajan of Shiva"
- "Fair of Shravan month"
- "Vactolota Utsav" are organised very well.





Volume 5, Issue 6

# **8.13ANARA: A POPULAR SAIBO TIRTHA**

#### **8.13.1 INTRODUCTION:**

According to the Hindu Mythology, it is believed that Lord Shiva is the destroyer of the universe and the soul of anybody after death gets intermingled into him. He is the supreme God. Lord Shiva is the God to creates, sustain and withdraw the whole universe.



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#### **8.13.2 LOCATION:**

Anarah Baneswar Dham is situated about 22 km away from Raghunathpur and just one mile away from the Anarah railway station in Purulia, West Bengal.

#### **8.13.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

The present Anarah village was a forest of Bamboo trees in the past near about 7-8 hundred years ago. The resident of this village was engaged in cattle rearing. One day they saw that their cow kokila go to the forest and gave milk on a big stone. After this incident they started 'Shiva puja'. Six hundred years ago the king of the 'Etagarh' established this temple, now it is very famous in the name of 'Anarah Baneswar Dham'.

#### **8.13.3 PRESENT CONDITION OF THE TEMPLE:**

There are six temples in Anarah. These are

- 1. Baba vairabnath temple
- 2. Nilkantheswar temple
- 3. Sitaleswar temple
- 4. Asoneswar temple
- 5. Baneswar temple

Baneswar temple is the oldest among these

temples. This temple open in morning and close at 8p.m. every evening, the villagers come there and performed 'Kirtan'

#### **8.13.4 MAJOR ATTRACTION:**

- Shiva Ratri in March it is considered as the Maha Parvati and Lord Shiva was met at this great occasion known as Maha Shiva Ratri. Shivaratri is celebrated well in every year.
- Nil Puja or Charak Puja in March or April another main festivals of Anarah. Many visitors come from different parts of Anarah and fair was held by the villagers for 3-4 days.

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# **8.14TERRACOTTA TEMPLE AT CHELIYAMA**

# 8.14.1 TERRACOTTA:

'Terracotta' means burnt clay, in contrast to terraccruda, which is sun dried clay. Terracotta is a type of fired clay, typically of a brownish-red colour and unglazed, used as ornamental building material and in modeling.

**8.14.2 PROCESS:** i. Clay is partially dried and cast.

- ii. Molded or hand working into the desired shop.
- iii. Placed in a kiln for firing.
- iv. Covered with sand to cool.
- v. Unglazed to glaze.
- vi. Coloring.

#### **8.14.3 LOCATION:**

Our worth seeing terracotta temple is situated at Babupara at Cheliyama under Purulia district. It is located near Adra railway station.

#### **8.14.4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

The terracotta temple of Cheliyama is contemporary to the terracotta temple of Vishnupur. An epistle is engraved in the north wall of the temple. It was Shree Subhash Roy who deciphered the epistle. According him the temple was built in the year 1697. A person named Santosh build this temple to please Radha Madhab.





#### 8.14.5 CHARACTERISTICS:

- i. The domed shape temple was constructed with four walls.
- ii. There are three gates which are constructed according to terracotta art.
- iii. The roof of the temple slope in all direction and the middle place is plane.



- v. The statue of Radha-Mahab is present in the temple.
- vi. A lot of god-goddess and social replica were constructed on the wall of the temple.

**8.15 GARHPANCHAKOT NATURE RESORT** 

# 8.15.1 INTRODUCTION:

Garpanchakot Nature Resort is situated near village Bagmara at the northern base of Panchet Hill in Purulia district of West Bengal. Its altitude is about 600 m and stretched over 5.25 hector. This resort located at 23°38' 29 ''

North and 86°



at 23°38' 29 45' 33"East.

Garhpanchakot Nature Resort is an eco-tourism centre of Purulia district. By protecting the forest and it diligence, the social and economic development is possible.

# **8.15.2 DEVELOPMENT HISTORY:**

In the past, there is some ruined area at Panchet hill. Garhpanchakot Nature Resort was constructed by West Bengal Forest Development Corporation Limited in 2001. This resort was started its operation as an eco-tourism destination in 2006. In 2013, it is awarded as one of the best eco-tourism resort by Govt. of West Bengal.

# 8.15.3 MAIN ATTRACTIONS:

From the Panchet cottage we can see Panchet dam which is away from 40 km. There is one place of Panchet hill; from this we can see Barakar and Assansol market.



**8.15.4 HELP TO INCREASE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF BAGMARA VILLAGE:** By forming this nature resort; Govt. help to increase economic development of Bagmara village. In this village, 30 families are directly and non-directly involve with this nature resort.

# 9.INFLOW OF TOURISTS AT RAGHUNATHPUR CIRCUIT:

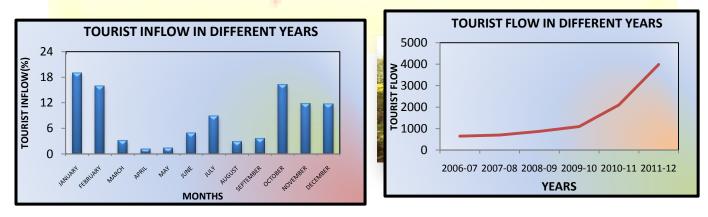
Inflow of tourists has been shown in yearly and monthly trajectory. It is seen that the figure that 18.5% tourist have come in January,15.9% in February,3.2% in March,1.1% in April,1.4% in May,4.8% in June , 8.9% in July,2.9% in August, 3.6% in September, 16.2% in October, 11.8% in November and 11.7% in December respectively. It is noticed that most of the tourists visited the place in winter.

Months	Tourist inflow (%)	
JANUARY	18.9	
FEBRUARY	15.9	
MARCH	3.2	
APRIL	1.1	
MAY	1.4	
JUNE	4.8	
JULY	8.9	
AUGUST	2.9	
SEPTEMBER	3.6	
OCTOBER	16.2	
NOVEMBER	11.8	
DECEMBER	11.7	

Source:Census Handbook of Purulia,2011

YEARS	TOURIST FLOW	
2006-07	647	
2007-08	698	
2008-09	867	
2009-10	1097	
2010-11	2098	
2011-12	39 <mark>87</mark>	





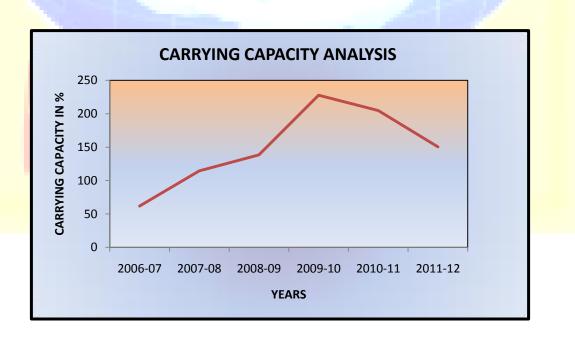
# **10.CARRYING CAPACITY ANALYSIS:**

YEARS	RESIDENT POPULATION	NO. OF AVAILABLE BEDS	TOURISM CARRYING CAPACITY
2006-07	647	400	61.82
2007-08	698	800	114.61
2008-09	867	1200	138.41
2009-10	1097	2500	227.89
2010-11	2098	4300	204.95
2011-12	3987	6000	150.49

CC= (NO. OF AVAILABLE BEDS/ RESIDENT POPULATION) 100

Source: Purulia.nic.in,official website of Purulia district

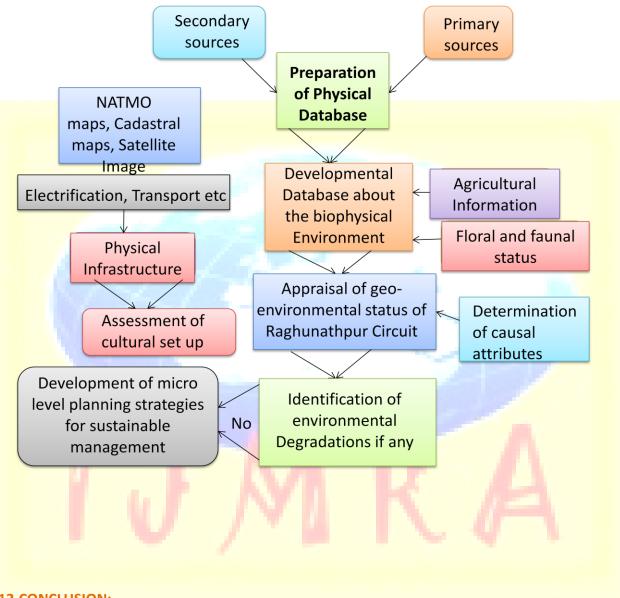
From the carrying capacity analysis it has been clear that the steady sharp increase of curve has been started to fall in 2011-12. It is noticed significantly that the tourist arrival has been started to increase since 2006-07. But the no. of available beds has been not increased accordingly. The ratio thus falls. So, need to better accommodation facility i.e. hotels as early as possible.







# 11. BROAD DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK OF RAGHUNATHPUR CIRCUIT



#### **12.CONCLUSION:**

Therefore, a big step is necessary to make the Purulia as a popular tourist spot. There is a need to identify the parameters to develop it a popular tourist spot. Proper planning is necessary by kept it in mind that tourism may be one of the major economic activity in the areas like Raghunathpur circuit where as such cultivation is very much tough because of the hard rock and minimum rainfall. In this case planning process should involve the local people by which they also understand the how important the tourism is.

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