

Review Profile of Mahal Village an Eco-tourism Planning Proposal

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ABSTRACT

As tourism is one of the fastest growing industries today, thus within the tourism industry events are getting more and more important. Events can offer various economic and social benefits for destinations, and therefore destination managers can and should employ events effectively in a tourism role. Even around hugely popular tourist places, there lie a number of attractive, but less known places, when a tourist from another country visits a highly popular tourists spot in India, his/her sightseeing is limited to a maximum of two days. Eco Tourism in India, In short, ecotourism can be categorized as a tourism programmer that is - "Nature based, ecologically sustainable, where education and interpretation is a major constituent and where local people are benefited." All this together can be called eco-tourism. Mahal village has a scope of recorded, normal and social possibilities. The advertising procedures arranged with the intend to make and build up Mahal tourism and at what stage is the picture of Mahal is the topic of this paper. The aim of the this paper is To analyze Tourism Potential of Dang District and to Frame Circuit based planning proposal of Mahal as an Eco-tourism the objectives are To study existing Tourism scenario of the area & identify potential and issues of Mahal spot for Eco-tourism purpose. To prepare planning proposal (circuit formation) for the area in Dang district to be developed as Eco-tourist spot for economic development of the local people.

Keywords – Tourism, Eco-tourism, Geography, Land use, Tourist profile, Circuit

1. Introduction

The eco-tourism was first used by HetorCeballors and Lascurain in 1983. They were supposed to make people give an attention to protecting and improving the natural environment, after traveling in those less pollution area [1].

1.1. Types of Tourism

- a) Tourism
- b) Eco-tourism
- c) Nature tourism
- d) Sustainable tourism

a) Tourism

- Tourism is the travel for recreational (fun), leisure (rest), family or business purposes, usually of a limited duration.

- It is a **collection of activities, services** that delivers a **travel experience, transportation and accommodations, eating and drinking establishments, other facilities** provided for travelling away from home.(National tourism policy,2002)

b) Nature Tourism

- Responsible travel to natural areas, which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people. It is tourism based on the natural attractions of an area.
- Examples include bird watching, photography, stargazing, camping, hiking, hunting, fishing, and visiting parks.

c) Sustainable Tourism

- Sustainable tourism is the concept of visiting a place as a tourist and trying to make a positive impact on the environment, society, and economy.

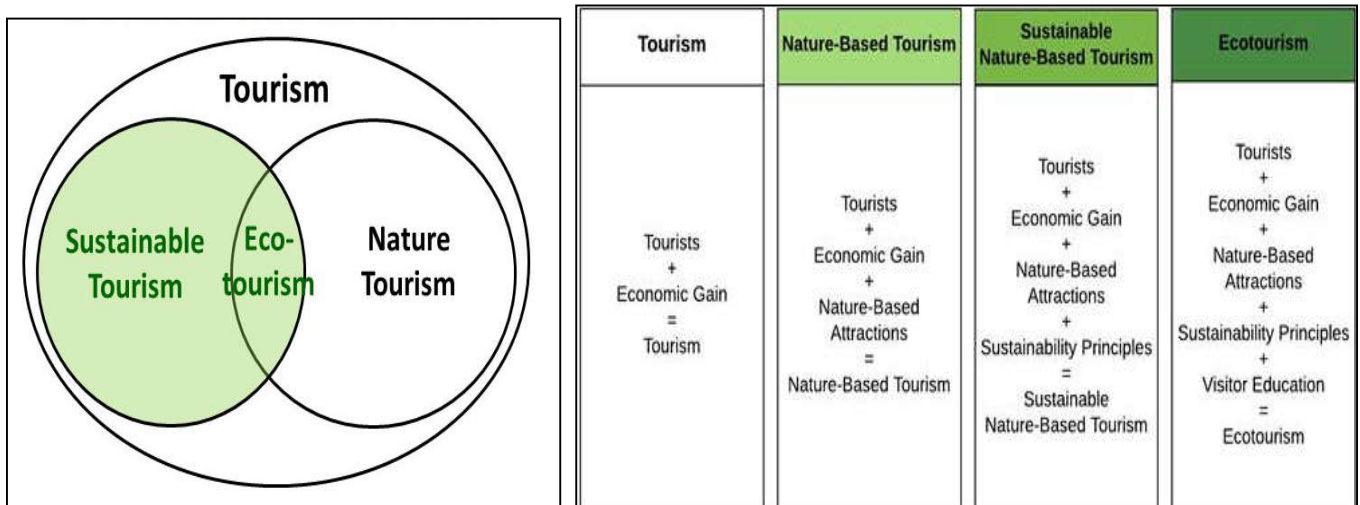
d) Eco-tourism

- Eco-tourism term was initially used to described nature-based travel to relatively undisturbed area.New concept and one of the fastest growing sectors in tourism industry.
- Special tourism which emphasizes people’s activity protecting environment but not damaging it, it is based on natural ecological system and society ecological system.[2].

1.2. Eco-tourism Four main components(Principals)

- Minimize impact
- Build environmental and cultural awareness and respect
- Provide positive experiences for both visitors and hosts
- Provide direct financial benefits for conservation
- Provide financial benefits and empowerment for local people
- Raise sensitivity to host countries' political, environmental, and social climate[2].

The Definition: Ecotourism is Responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and improves the well-being of local people.[2].



2. Problem Definition

To analyze Eco-tourism based Potential of Dang District & to Frame a Circuit as a Planning Proposal of Mahal.

3. Aim

To analyze Tourism Potential of Dang District and to Frame Circuit based planning proposal of Mahal as an Eco-tourism.

4. Objectives

- To study existing Tourism scenario of the area & identify potential and issues of Mahal spot for Eco-tourism purpose.
- To prepare planning proposal (circuit formation) for the area in Dang district to be developed as Eco-tourist spot for economic development of the local people.

5. Geography&locationofMahal village

- Mahal is a Village in Ahwa Taluka in Dang District of Gujarat State, India. It is located 2 KM towards North from District headquarters Ahwa & 20.9156° N, 73.6691° E. 342 KM.
- The Mahal EcoCampsite is bestowed with rivers and bamboo glides, with excellent walking and trekking options. It is located on the banks of the Purna River, in the middle of the Purna Wildlife Sanctuary and is a part of the Dang Forest Division North. It's also near the Girmal Falls which offer a breath taking view.
- Mahal Eco-Tourism campsite is one of the four eco-tourism centers in the Dangs, Gujarat. Mahal campsite offers excellent trekking and walking options.

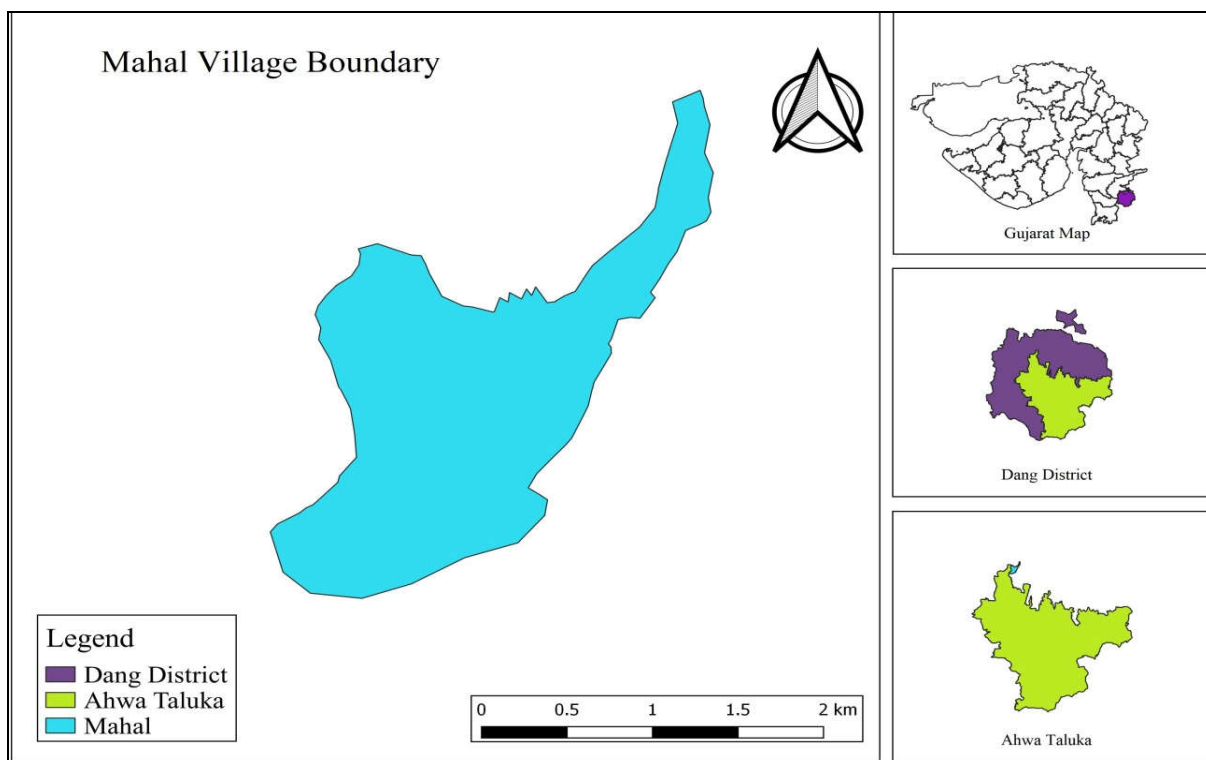


Fig: Mahal Village Boundary

6. Land use

TABLE: Land Use Details of Mahal Village

Sr No	Land use	Area in hectare	Percentage
1	Built up	363232.8988	5
2	Agriculture	159204.8755	9
3	Water Body	8100	14
4	Forest	3600	19
5	Open Space	2073230.507	24
6	Barren Land	587633.2564	29
	Total	3195001.537	100

(Source: land use map Produced by LANSAT 8)

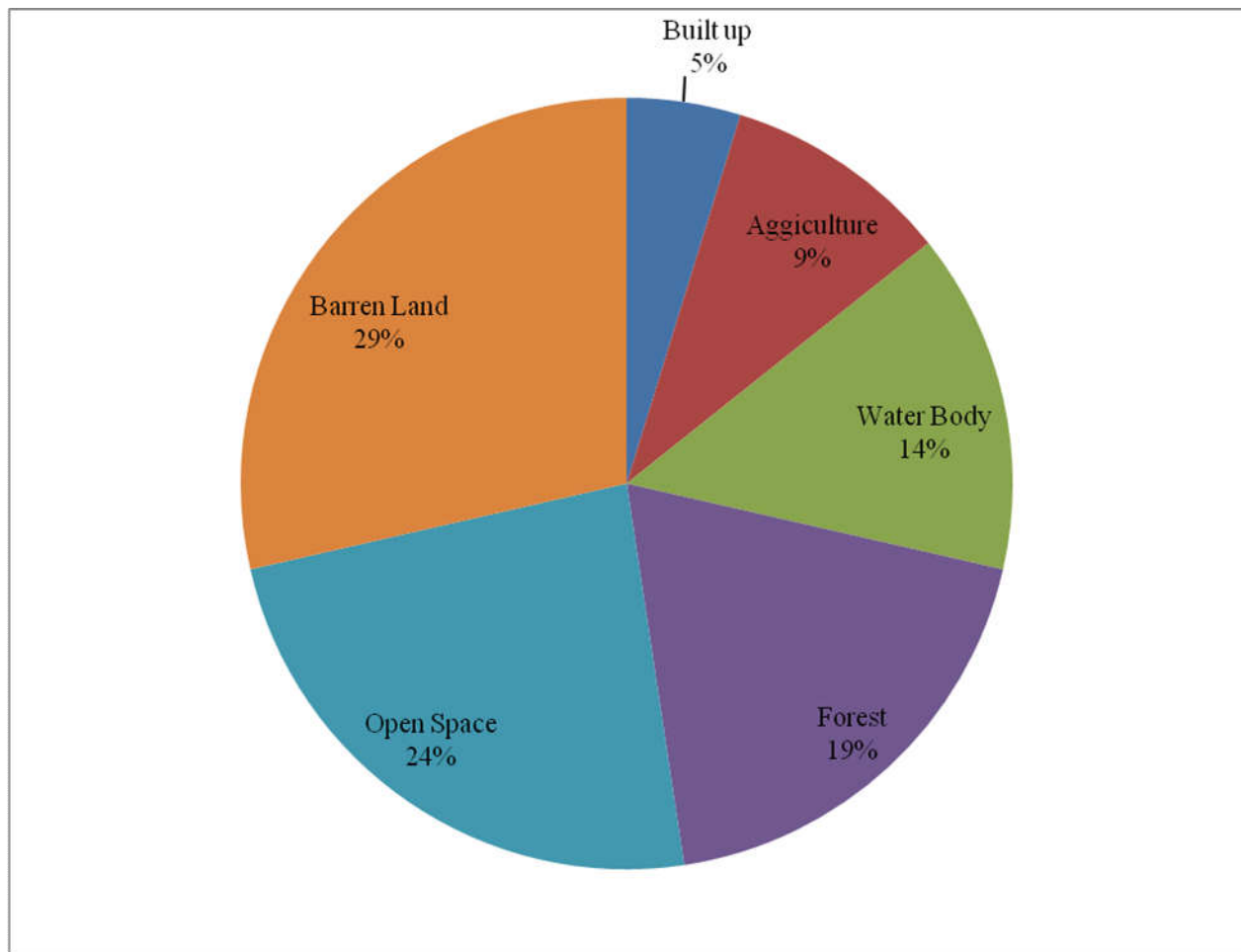


Chart: Land Use Distribution of Mahal Village



Fig: Existing Site of Mahal Village

7. Transportation facilities

- Rail: Nearest railway station is Waghai, on the Billimora - Waghai narrow gauge section of the Western Railway. For those coming from Gujarat via Surat or Ahmedabad or even tom Bombay, Billimora is the most convenient rail head as irect bus service is available from there.
- Road: State transport buses end private luxury coaches connects various centres of Gujarat and Maharashtra . It is situated 409 kms from Ahmedabad and 51 kms from Waghai.
- Local Transport: Hired jeeps from Ahwa; organised tours within and outside Saputara in minibuses by Chitrakoot/ Vaity during peak seasons (two buses). Organised tours by TCGL.

8. Study justification

- As per study analysis, there is a drastic change in number of tourists visit the Mahal year by year. It shows that visitors are getting increased year by year.

Year	Total Numbers of Tourists
2011-12	8725
2012-13	9009
2013-14	10302
2014-15	10699
2015-16	10365
2016-17	19013
2017-18	33932

TABLE: No. of Tourists since 2011

- This place is full of natural resources and has a great potential for eco-tourism development.
- Many other tourist places are there near to Mahal but Mahal has many attractions compare to other places. So more and more tourist prefer to visit the Mahal.

(Source:Ahwa Forests North Dang Division office)

9. Tourism Circuits

Tourist circuit defines accessible rout and connectivity between nearest Tourist spot. Tourist circuit made through three or more place are comes in one tehsil or District. The study highlights the identification of tourism spot near to Mahal (Eco spot). This circuit have been structure by considering the length, duration, and connectivity.

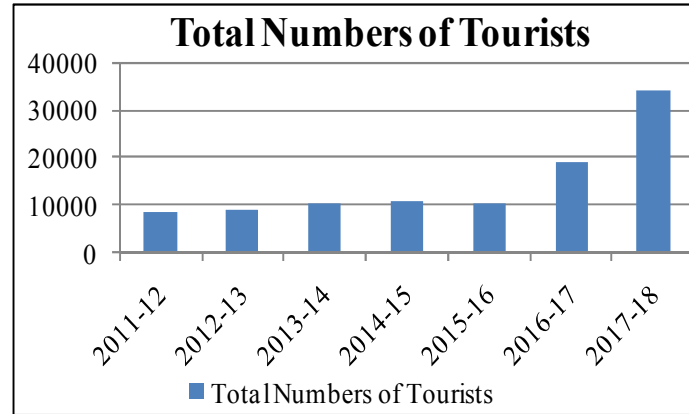
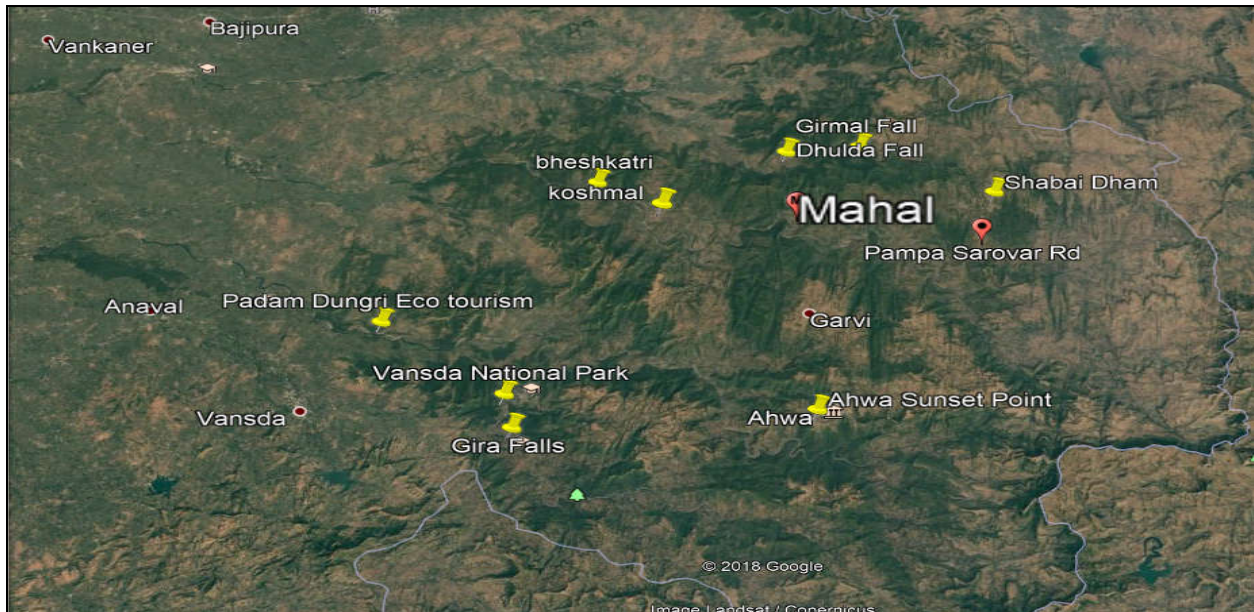


Chart: Tourist Deta



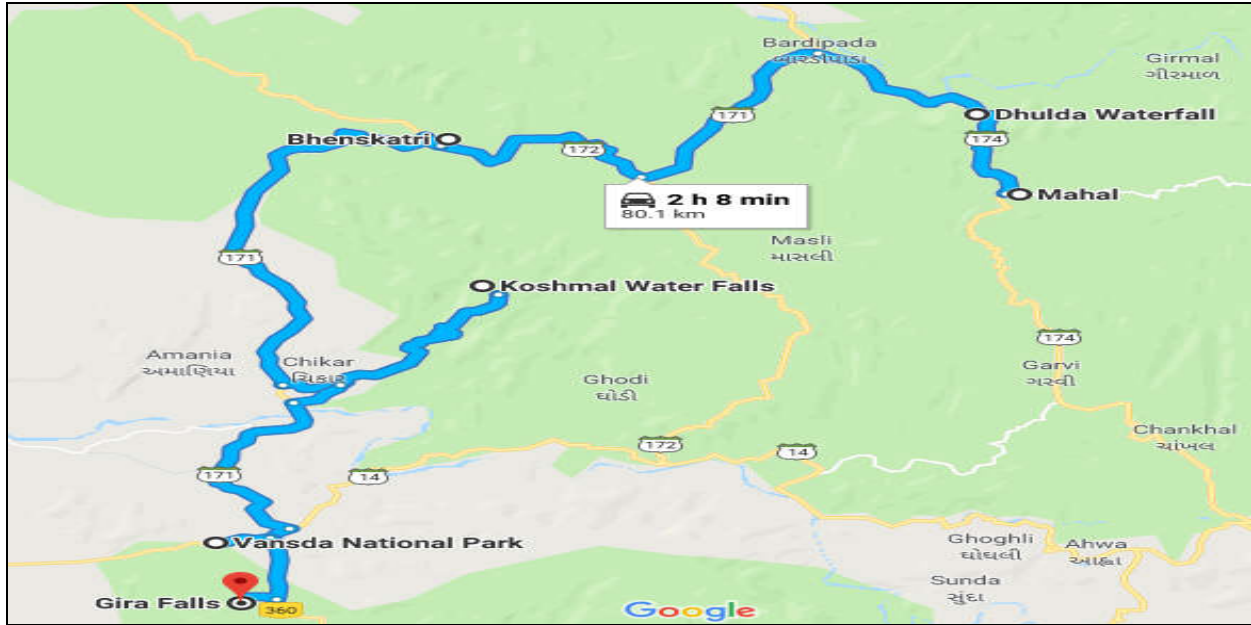


Fig: Circuit – 1 (Mahal – Dhulda Water fall – Bhenskatrri – Koshmal Water fall – Vansda National Park – Gira fall)

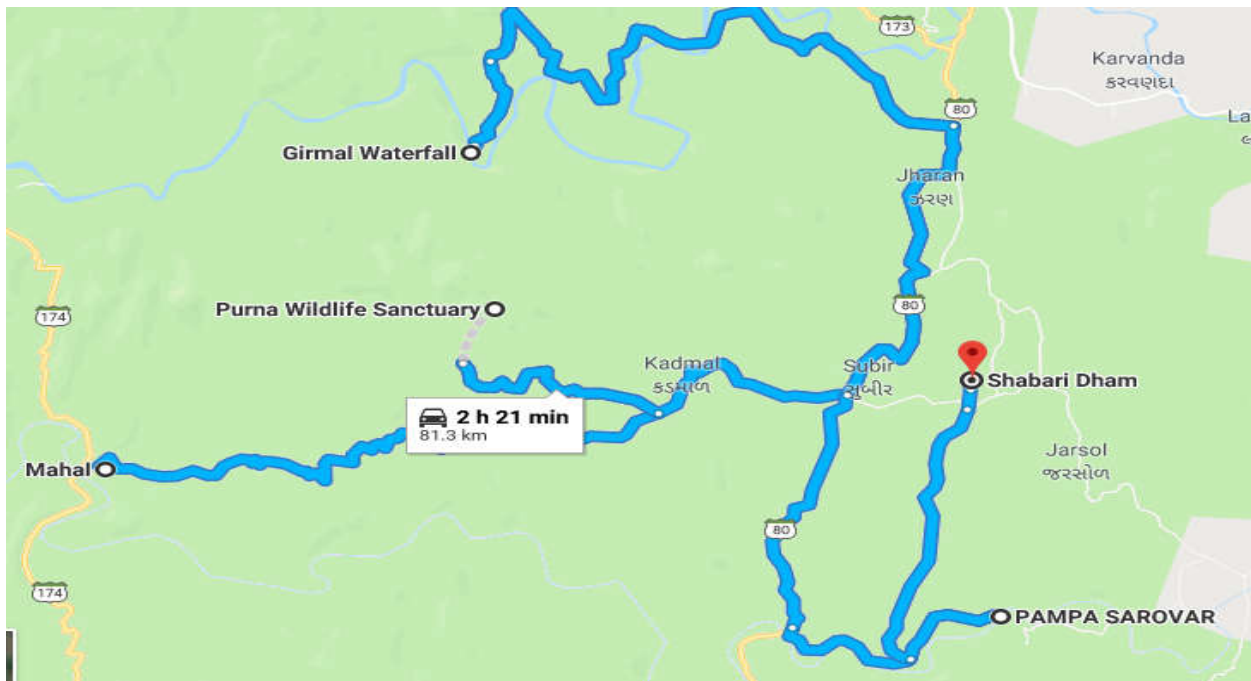


Fig: Circuit – 2(Mahal – Subir – Girmal Waterfall – Pampa Sarovar – shabariDham – Mahal)

TABLE: Details of Circuit 1 and Circuit 2

Circuit - 1	Circuit - 2
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Gira fall 8:00 am to 9:00 am	Shabridham 8:00 am to 11:00
Vansda National Park 10:00 am to 11:00 am	Pampa Sarovar 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Bheshkatri 12:00 pm to 3 pm	Girmal Water fall 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm
Koshmal Water fall 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm	Night holt at Mahal
Night holt at Mahal	Second Day spent at Mahal Karanjva Water fall
Second day spent at Mahal Karanjva Water fall	

10. Conclusion

Tourism industry has risen as an imperative instrument in the financial advancement of Indian economy, especially in remote in reverse rustic zones. Tourism advancement and Tourism approach are firmly interrelated perspectives. Tourism is a vital section of an economy. Monetary improvement of any country, in the case of creating, created or immature nation is essentially affected by tourism segment. Every single nation have embraced number of activities to draw in both residential and remote guests, extension of tourism foundation, advancement of tourism spots, development of new tourism items and so on. In this paper circuit is proposed in Mahal to promote the environment, socio-economic development of areas, and to develop the circuit having tourist potential in a planned and prioritized manner, enhancing the tourist attractiveness by developing the circuit.

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