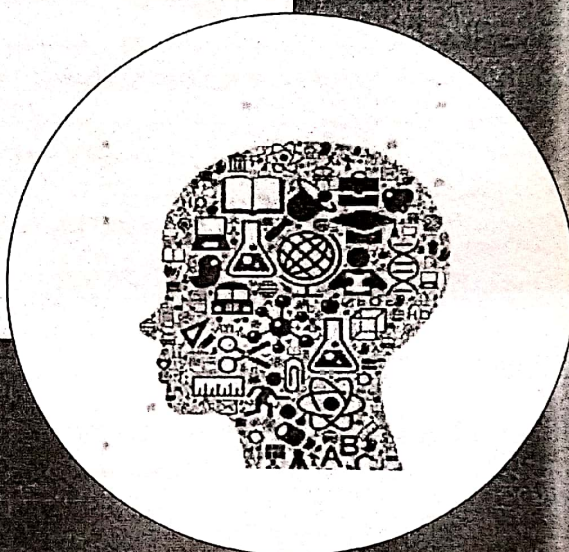


ISSN No 2347-7075  
Impact Factor- 7.328  
Volume-4 Issue-8

# **INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL of ADVANCE and APPLIED RESEARCH**



**Publisher: P. R. Talekar**  
Secretary,  
Young Researcher Association  
Kolhapur(M.S), India

Young Researcher Association





Sr No	Paper Title	Page No
1	Potential, Problems and Prospects of Agro- Tourism Development in South Sholapur Taluka Dr. Sangameshwar Annarao Nimbargi	1-3
2	Tourism, 'a study! Dr. Prakash Laxmanrao Dompale	4-6
3	The Impact Of Tourism Development On Indian Economy – A Study Dr. Prashant M. Puranik	7-9
4	Adventure Tourism Is Emerging Trend in India to Develop Nation through Tourism Dr. Sanjay Raosaheb Sawate	10-12
5	Need of Tourism Development: A Case Study of Harihar Tempal Ajanale in Sangola Tahsil of Solapur District. Assist. Prof. S.G. Patil, Assist. Prof. S.S. Kambale	13-15
6	Effects of Agro Tourism on Rural Development Dr. H. L. Jadhav	17-19
7	Maharashtra Government's Policy on Tourism: A Comprehensive Analysis Dr. Deshmukh Appasaheb Mallapa	20-22
8	Appraisal of Satisfaction Index of Tourists Visited at Nagaon Beach in Raigad district (Maharashtra) Dr. Amol M. Bibe	23-25
9	Role of Agrotourism in Rural Development of India Mr. Ajay D. Patil	26-28
10	Tourism sector in India: Growth, Challenges and Opportunities Dr. Nandini Pandurang Wagh	28-30
11	Tourism Marketing Archana Vasantrao Salunke	31-33
12	Development of Indian Tourism Industry in World Mr. Vikas Milind Ubale , Dr. Sikandar M Mulani, Dr. Amol Mahadev Pawar	34-36
13	A Study of Unapdev Tourist Center and Satisfaction Index S.B. Ashture	38-40
14	The Tourism policy of India Dr. I. M. Khairdi	41-43
15	Problems and Potential of Fort Tourism in South Konkan Prof. Dr. C.R. Salunkhe, Prof. Dr. Anita Awati	43-45
16	Prospects of Medical Tourism in Nagpur Dr. Deepali Chahande	49-51
17	Indian Tourism: As A Great Resource of Foreign Exchange Earnings Dr. Balasaheb Mali	53-55
18	Entrepreneurship and Its Development in a Sphere of Religious Tourism. Mrs. Pradnya Swaroop Bhambure, Mr. Ritesh Suresh Tondase, Dr. Yogesh Bhowte , Dr. Pritam Kothari	56-60
19	The Role of Rural Women for the Development of Rural Tourism in India. Mr. Abhijeet Ghosal, Dr. D.S. Narayankar	63-65
20	Impact of Road Transport Network on Tourism Development in Miraj Sub District: Sangli Rucha R. Shidore , R.G. Jadhav	66-70
21	Geo-Historical Study of Fort Tourism in District Satara of Maharashtra: An Overview Dr.Arjun Wagh , Dr. Ankush Shinde	72-74





## Problems and Potential of Fort Tourism in South Konkan

Prof. Dr. C.R. Salunkhe<sup>1</sup>, Prof. Dr. Anita Awati<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup> I.C.S. College, Khed – Ratnagiri.

Corresponding Author- Prof. Dr. C.R. Salunkhe

DOI- 10.5281/zenodo.7798313

### Abstract-

Tourism is known as one of the important industry in world and India. In last few years new trends have emerged in tourism. Fort tourism is an ideal example of it. Konkan which is important part of Maharashtra state has a rich history, culture and heritage. South Konkan is known for the land of lord Parshurama and for its maritime history. Historical tourism is not developed in the Konkan up to its potential. Now a days young generation is coming out for trekking, mountaineering, hiking and many more adventure activities in Western Ghat or Sahyadri ranges. Most of the forts are located in the Western Ghat and in the coastal areas where the tourists are coming in large numbers. This is the good opportunity to divert such tourists towards fort tourism if the basic infrastructure has been provided to them. It will help the local people and regional development.

In this paper an attempt has been made to know the potential of fort tourism and the problems associated with Fort Tourism.

**Key words** - New Trends, Historical tourism, Adventure activities, Fort tourism.

### Introduction

Maharashtra, the famous state of India, occupy a large portion of the Deccan plateau in the western peninsular part of the subcontinent. Maharashtra is called the gateway of India and is one of India's biggest commercial and industrial centres. It has played a significant role in the country's social and political development. Maharashtra is a 3rd largest state of India in size. Maharashtra is known for its complex range of physical diversity. Maharashtra is home to a repository of natural beauty, architectural wonders, festivals, traditions, gastronomy and glamour. Maharashtra is one word, but it speaks volume of its rich culture and diverse people. It is said that there is something for everyone. Maharashtra is also known as Trekkers paradise with green hills, doted lakes and forest. Maharashtra has unlimited tourist resources and it's seen from the campaign of Unlimited Maharashtra.

Culture of Maharashtra is amalgamation of festivals, dances, music, art and craft, food, costumes. It's important to know about history but it's the culture which defines a state in its own style, it is very true about Maharashtra. Maharashtra has a variety of tourist destinations like as beaches, forts, caves, hill stations and wildlife sanctuaries to temples and shrines, adventure sports, as well as lakes and waterfalls. It has five UNESCO World Heritage Sites i.e. the Ajanta Caves, Ellora Caves, Elephanta Caves, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) (previously Victoria Terminus) in Mumbai and the Western Ghats. Tourism has become one of the most important activities in most of the districts of Maharashtra. Due to the rich past history and 350

forts which are the major attractions to the tourists who visits the state. Maharashtra is divided into five geographic regions. Konkan, Western Maharashtra, Marathwada, Khandesh and Vidarbha. Konkan Which is one of the important division and extends throughout the western coasts of Maharashtra. It has 720 k.m. coastline and bounded by the Western Ghats mountain range (also known as Sahyadri) in the east, the Arabian Sea in the west, the Daman Ganga River in the north and the River Terekhol in south. In this paper an attempt has been made to identify the potential forts for tourism development and the problems associated to fort tourism.

### Objective-

- 1- To know the development of tourism in South Konkan.
- 2- To understand the tourism potential in South Konkan region.
- 3- To identify the potential of fort tourism in South Konkan
- 4- To suggest the remedies for development of fort tourism in South Konkan.

### Research Methodology –

The study of this research is based on primary and secondary data. Primary data is collected through the field visits and questionnaires. Secondary data is collected from the published documents such as Government reports, magazines, newspapers and internet.

### Brief history of forts -

Forts were very important for primary defense in Maharashtra against enemy invasions, and had been so since ancient times. They are known in the local language as 'killa' (or 'qila' in Urdu). One of the early reference to forts in the



subcontinent occurs in the ancient political treatise, 'Arthashastra' by Kautilya, whereby Kautilya classifies the forts as Jal durg (water forts), Giri durg (mountain forts), Vana durg (forest forts), Dhanu durg (arid/desert forts located in conditions which are devoid of a ready water supply), Mahi durg (brick forts), and Nar durg (human forts), not to mention the ancient cities in kingdoms such as Mathura, Magadha, and so on which were also mentioned as being fortified settlements. The social treatise, 'Manusmriti' by Manu, also describes the advantages and disadvantages of different classifications of fort.

Due to its peculiar topography, Maharashtra has always revealed in different forms of fort constructions. Its structures and architectural designs have differed depending upon their region and location, whether these are on the plains, coastal areas, hilly terrain or in the dense forests. The forts in Maharashtra were constructed from the point at which some of the early ruling dynasties (and their vassals) held power, such as the Satvahanas, the Rashtrakutas, the Kadambas, the Chalukyas, the Yadavas, the Afghans, the Bahmanis, the Gonds in Berar, the sultanates of Ahmednagar, Bijapur and Berar, the Siddis, the Europeans (British, Portuguese), and last but not the least the Marathas. The Marathas gave tremendous importance to forts as they were their strongest defence against marauding invaders. Due to the inherent hilly terrain of the Sahyadri range, most of their forts belonged to the 'hill' category.

**The Forts in Maharashtra can be divided in the following types-**

1. Hill forts
2. Sea forts
3. Land forts
4. Forest forts
5. Human forts

#### **Hill Forts**

These forts are constructed on the high hills by using stone cut from the mountains. The high altitudes made these forts safe from the enemy. In the Marathi these forts are called 'Giri Durg' ('giri' means the mountain and 'durg' is the term for a fort), Raigad, Rajgad, Purandar, Sinhagad, Pratapgad, Shivneri, Rajmachi, and so on. The hill forts are most common in Maharashtra and scattered all around the Sahyadri mountains. They are located at short distances from each other and were accessed by crossing a couple of mountains. If a fort was captured by the enemy, this allowed the king and his officials to escape and easily reach the next fort. Hill forts were constructed from stones carved out of the very mountains, and were attached (depending upon the design) with the help of lime, rubble, gravel, stones, bricks (used mainly in land forts or smaller forts), molten metal and sand. Lime or mortar was

ground on the fort itself (in what were called the 'Chunyaachya ghaani', 'chuna' being the term for lime), with the help of a roller passing through a circular channel.

#### **Land Forts**

These forts were created on the plains. In Marathi they were called 'Bhuikot' (Durg), and examples include Chakan fort, Bahadurgad, Solapur fort, Ahmednagar fort, and so on.

#### **Sea Forts**

These forts were created in the middle of the sea and protected by its vicious waves. In Marathi they were called 'Jal Durg', and examples include Janjeera, Sindhudurg, Suvarndurg and Padmadurg. The Suvarnadurg fort in Dapoli is one of the few forts to be built in the sea.

#### **Forest Forts**

These forts were created amidst dense jungle, protected by the heavy tree cover, along with reptiles and wild animals. They were the 'Vana Durg', and Javali is one such example.

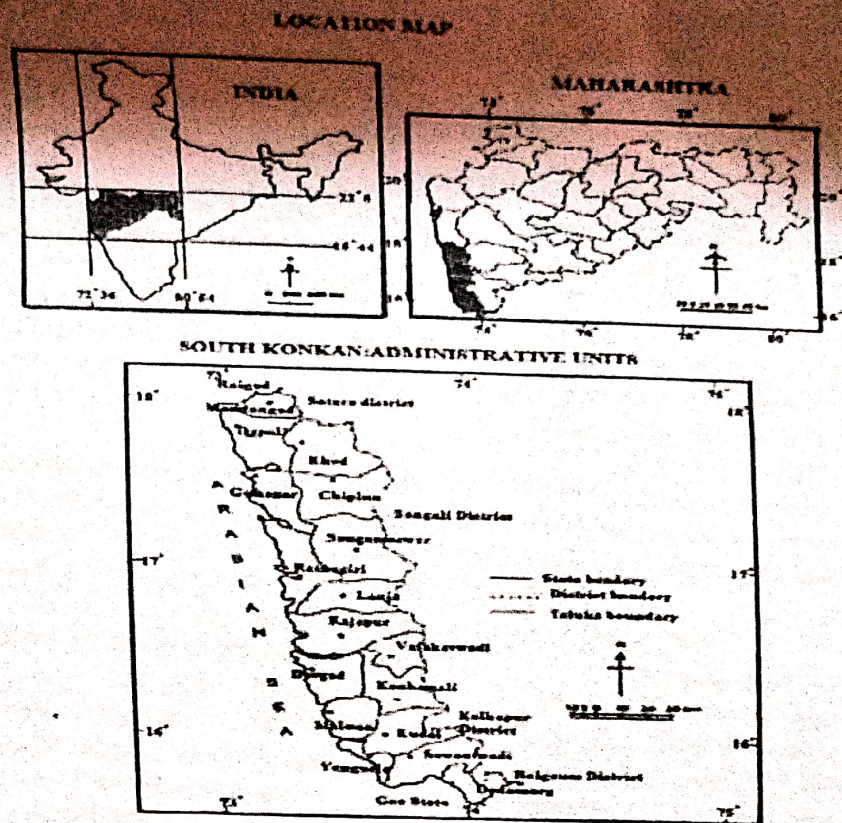
#### **Human Forts**

These formations were created as a direct result of human warfare, and encampments often resembled forts. These are the 'Nar Durg'.

#### **Study region -**

Konkan region is a naturally gifted area of the Maharashtra state. Konkan is well known for its natural beauty and is emerging as a favorite tourist destination for lot of people. Konkan's greenery, coconut trees, beautiful virgin beaches, waterfalls, mountains and lush green valleys definitely provides a rich and pleasant experience for the tourists. Tourism in Konkan is developing very fast. Tourists from Maharashtra now prefer to visit Konkan because of several reasons like close vicinity, easy accessibility due to better roads and Konkan railway. The economically cheap accommodation and overall lower costs for visiting previously unexplored places is an added attraction to the tourists. Local people depending mainly upon fishing and farming activities for their livelihood but nowadays people are shifting their livelihood with the help of growing Tourism in the region. Fort tourism is a new path for the local people in Konkan because there are nearly 129 forts. If the potential of this fort tourism is grabbed it will be better for the youth in Konkan and it will reduce the out migration of the youth. A coastal strip of land bounded by Sahyadri hills on the east and Arabian Sea on the west. Konkan region is extended from Palghar in north to Sindhudurg in south including the districts like Palghar, Thane, Raigad, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg while Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts are the part of south Konkan. The latitudinal location of south Konkan is 15°37' to 18.04' north latitudes and 73.02 to 74° 13' east longitude. These two districts have total 46 forts which are sea





Location Map – South Konkan

**Forts in South Konkan are classified as under -**

1. Hill Forts – Sumargad, Rasalgad, Prachitgad, Mandangad, Padmnabhdurg/ Panhaledurg, Palgad, Govalkot, Sadanandgad, Ramgad, Bhagvantgad, Bhartgad, Sidhagad, Shivilanka, Manohargad, Mansantoshgad, Mahadevgad,
2. Sea forts – Sindhudurg, Suvarndurg
3. Land forts – Himmatgad/ Bankot, Govagad, Fattedurg, Kanakdurg, Anjanvel, Vijaygad, Jaigad, Ratnagiri, Purngad, Aanmbolgad, Yashvantgad, Vijaydurg, Devgad, Sarjekot, Rajkot, Padmgad, Nivati, Yashvantgad, Kharepatan,
4. Forest forts- Mahiptgad, Barwai, Kolkevadi, bhavanidurg, Mahimatgad, Bhairavgad, Songad, Narayngad, Hanumantgad,

**Few forts which have potential as fort tourism are discussed as per following-**

#### 1 - Hill Forts -

##### Sumargad –

The fort is located in the mid hill range which extends in the North South direction and runs parallel to the Sahyadris in Khed Tahsil. Due to its difficulty in access, height and tough to climb. Fort has straight rock surfaces from all the sides of the fort and on the way sometimes it is necessary to do rock climbing to reach to the fort. There are some water tanks on the fort.

##### Rasalgad fort -

The fort is located on southern tip of a hill range that spans in the North South direction and runs parallel to the Sahyadris. Out of the three forts situated in this range, only Rasalgad is easy to reach. The fort is spread on an area of 5 acres. The fort has temples of two goddesses Solai and Waghai which are known for carvings. On the North Western side there is citadel which has a storehouse and palace. In the southern part there is one water tank in the cave having four pillars. There are canons on some bastions of the fort. The known history of the fort starts from the time of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. This fort was won by Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj from More of Javali. In 2003, Rasalgad was declared as a protected monument by Archaeological Survey of India.

##### Mandangad fort –

Mandangad fort is known as most ancient fort in the Ratnagiri district and was commissioned in the 12<sup>th</sup> century during the realm of king Bhoj. The fort is in ruin condition in some parts, but one can see lot of ancient relics here. Fort is classified as Giridurg and has security walls created in an expanse of 8 acres. It's wonderful to see a perennial lake created in black rock or basalt.

##### Gowalkot fort-

This fort is also known as Govindgad or Gowalkot fort. The fort is located 3 kms. from



**IJAAR**

Chiplun and eastern side of the village Gowalkot. This fort is surrounded by Vashishthi river from north and by Vatoli river to the southern and western sides. Due to this it looks like island style delta. This fort has been repaired by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and at the base of fort Shree Devi Kanjeshwari temple is situated.

**Prachitgad fort-**

This fort is also known as Uchitgad or the fort of Shringarpur. The fort is spread across 5 acres. Shringarpur is a place of in-laws of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj. It is situated in the Sahyadry ranges. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj won Shringarpur and constructed this strong fort. This fort is difficult to climb so has the patience to visit.

**Bhairavgad fort-**

This fort is also coming in the category of Giridurg. The fort is located 45 kms. from Chiplun and from Derwan it is 12 kms. Durgwadi, Gawal villages are the base for this fort but it is convenient from Durgwadi. The fort is very difficult and challengeable to climb for mountaineers also.

Sadanandgad fort, Ramgad, Bhagvantgad, Bharatgad, Sidhagad, Vetalgad, Kharepatan, Manohargad, Mansantoshgad, Mahadevgad, are known as hill forts in Sindhudurg district.

**2- Land Forts/ Coastal forts-****Bankot fort-**

Bankot is a small fort located in the Tehsil of Mandangad. It was made part of the Bombay Presidency in 1756. A Greek expert Lini has mentioned this fort as Mandagir in the first century A.D. When the fort has been transferred from Portuguese to the Maratha Empire it was named as Himmatgad. Again British regime took it from Angre and renamed as Victoria. This fort has a memorial cemetery of the wife of Charles Mallet and created in the year 1791.

Bankot fort was the first residency of the British Raj in Southern Konkan. The Marathas renamed the fort as Himmatgad.

**Gopalgad -**

The Gopalgad fort at village Anjanvel, - Guhagar, Dist-Ratnagiri is a coastal fort with an approximate area of 7 acres. The main fort has been extended by different rulers during different times. The main central fort was constructed by the Bijapur rulers in the 16th century. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj annexed this fort during his Dabhol campaign in 1660. After the death of Shivaji Maharaj in 1680, this fort was annexed by Siddi Khairat Khan in 1699. In 1744 the Maratha warrior Tuloji Angre captured this fort and added it back to the Maratha Kingdom (then Peshwa rule).

**Jaygad Fort**

The fort of Jaygad is located at 25 Kms from Ganpatipule and 50 kms. from Ratnagiri. The fort is still in a good condition. The fort was

primarily built for guarding the Jaygad port. This fort has erected by Vijapurkar in the Shastri river creek and is located north of the village. The fort has been designed with two areas i.e. Balekilla (the upper fort) and Parkot (the security wall). The fort has 28 fortifications.

**Purnagad fort**

Purnagad fort is spread in an area of 22 acres. The fort is located at the mouth of Muchkundi creek. The fort is in good condition and has some cannons in the fort. In the 18th century this fort was commissioned as desired by Peshwas. It is said that the construction of this fort was mainly from the point of the commerce.

**Yashwantgad fort -**

Yashwantgad fort has been erected on the banks of Jaitapur creek. It is spread over 7 acres and the creek water has from two sides. The fort was erected in the 16th century during the Vijapur Regime.

**Ambolgad fort-**

Ambolgad fort is 5 kms from Yashwantgad and it is in the village only. The fort can be identified from the relics of security walls of the forts. It has expanded on 5600 square meters. The security walls have been constructed with black basalt rock which indicates that it has been built around 11th century during Shilahar regime.

**Goa, Fatehgad and Kanakdurga forts -**

First fort is Goa fort and its security walls are still in good condition. In the left of Goa fort Fatehgad fort is situated but most of the relics of fort are lost. Kankdurg is located just close to Harnai port. This fort has sea from three sides and it is in ruin condition. The forts were built by Adilshah and later captured by Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in 1660. Earlier there was a tunnel connecting both the forts but now only way to go to Suvarnadurga is through a boat.

**Vijaydurg -**

The fort is located on Vaghotan creek and renovated by Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Three sides are covered by water and from one side is land.

**Devgad fort -**

This fort is located near the plateau of Devgad. Sarjekot fort, Rajkot, Padmgad, Nivati fort, Yashvantgad, are the examples of land/ coastal forts in Sindhudurg district.

**3 - Forest forts-****Mahipatgarh Fort**

Mahipatgarh Fort is on the east of the Khed. It is one of the biggest strong hold in Maharashtra, with a range of 120 acres. The erection of fort was carried out in the regime of Vijapurkar. In 1661, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj included this fort in the Swarajya. Bhavanigad Bhavanigad is located in Sangameshwar tehsil. There is a big temple of Goddess Bhavani, it is said that it is built in the



14th century. Shivaji Maharaj renovated this fort in 1661. The British won this fort in 1818. After a steep walk for 5 minutes, we reach towards few cisterns. In this temple, there is a bust of Shivaji Maharaj and an ancient idol of Goddess Bhavani.

#### **Mahmatgad fort -**

This fort is located 20 kms. away from Devrukh on the eastern side. Nigudwadi village is the base of this fort. The fort has an expanse of 12 acres. Due to steep rising apexes on the three sides the fort has been bestowed with a natural security and from the fourth side the security wall has been constructed. The fort has a total of 8 fortifications. Apart from above forts Bhairavgad, Songad, Narayangad, Hanumantgad are forest forts located in different parts of Sindhudurg district.

#### **4 - Sea forts -**

##### **Sindhudurg fort-**

Sindhudurg fort in Maharashtra, one among the many forts built by the great Chhatrapati Shivaji, is a fusion of elegance and antiquity. The fort lies on a rocky island just off the coast of Malvan which is accessible by a boat from mainland. The district is named after the fort of Sindhudurg which means 'Fort in the Sea'. This fort was the main Maratha headquarters to prepare for wars, battles and also to provide security to Maratha people. The fort built on the orders of Shivaji took three years to complete with almost 100 architects from Portugal and a manpower of 3000. The fort is spread over an area of 48 acres with fortified walls, 12 ft thick and 29 ft high, stretch for 2 miles. Over 4000 mounds of iron were used in the casting and foundation stones were firmly laid down in lead.

Underwater passages are still a matter of skill and the brilliant tactician and monarch in Shivaji which had made it possible in the 16th century. The fort has a hidden passage in the temple.. This passage goes under the fort for 3 kilometres and 12 kilometres beneath the sea and from there 12 kilometres in to a nearby village which was used as an evacuation pathway for people.

Due to the architectural brilliance and uniqueness, this fort has its own identity in world. In the fort there are 3 temples inside which are dedicated to Goddess Bhavani, Lord Hanuman and Jarimari. One important characteristic of this fort is a popular temple which is devoted to Chhatrapati Shivaji, the only one of its kind in the world. It is also known for the hand-prints as well as footprints of Chhatrapati Shivaji which can be seen on a slab. Sindhudurg fort is undoubtedly an unique fort on various dimensions which attracts thousands of tourists.

##### **Suvarnadurga , -**

These forts are located at 17 kms. from Dapoli at Harne, The Suvarnadurg fort consists of

three subsidiary forts, Kanakdurga, Fatehgad and Goa forts, which are the land forts and Suvarnadurga is a sea fort.

#### **Problems of fort tourism in South Konkan -**

The fort tourism has a great potential in South Ratnagiri, but due to various issues the fort tourism has not reached up to its potential still. Following are some problems which have been observed during research in the study area -

- 1- Good conditioned roads
- 2- Lack of awareness among the local people
- 3- Ruin conditions of most forts
- 4- Non-availability of information about forts
- 5- Littering and garbage
- 6- Lack of Accommodation and food facilities
- 7- Irresponsible behaviour of tourists
- 8- Negligence of Government authorities
- 9- Non-availability of Signage boards and route details
- 10- Lack of basic facilities

#### **Suggestions -**

Tourism has enormous potential in Konkan, especially in south Konkan. Development of tourism in south Konkan will definitely have a positive impact on the local economy. If the fort tourism has been promoted it will be a unique identity of South Konkan all over in the state. It is observed that there is lack of information about our own maritime history, the rich legacy of Maratha Empires and the role played by all these forts in fighting with the dominance of European people. It is suggested that if these forts are maintained properly and conserved according to the tourists specially the youth who are the major part of the historical tourism, it will help to the development of tourism on a long way.

#### **Recommendations -**

Tourism is known as one of the important activity in Maharashtra. In last two years of pandemic this industry has faced tremendous loss, so if the government wants to promote, boost the industry in its back position, some new trends have to be adopted. Fort tourism is one such new type of tourism which should be promoted in south Konkan for the local development.

#### **For the development of tourism in south Konkan some of the following facilities should be provided to the tourists.-**

- 1- Detail history of the Konkan and the Maratha empires should be shown through the documentary or museums.
- 2- History of the forts and their importance, role in the history should be highlighted.
- 3- It is very important to prepare the maps showing the suitable roads, signage boards in the beginning of the travel.
- 4- Minimum basic facilities for the tourists should be provided by the local authority or the government, because these forts are inspiration



for thousands of youths regarding our past rich history.

- 5- Fort tourism will support the local people , villages, their culture through the cuisines, folk arts, dance forms and traditions which will help to conserve and protect our own culture, rich history or heritage.

In short we can say that, the development plans are associated with our maritime history, it will not help only for the regional development but also it will helpful to keep our rich history and heritage alive.

#### References-

- 1- A Swami, (1997) – Historical forts of Konkan
- 2- Gazetteer of Bombay Vol.1 1982, Mumbai.
- 3- Gazetteer of Ratnagiri and Sawantwadi, 1882
- 4- Ghanekar P.K.- (2003)- Jaldurganchya Sahavasat, shenhal publication, Pune.
- 5- Jain Y. ( 2008)- Tourism Development – Problems and Prospectus , New Delhi.
- 6- Maharashtra Tourism Development Reports- 2005,2011.
- 7- Singh Vinod (2008)- Historical and Cultural Tourism in India .
- 8- Thakur Meena (2008) - Modern Trends of Tourism, New Delhi –Omega.