

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Nepal is a developing country having rich socio cultural and natural resources. It has immensely diverse and undulating topography, varied climate and mix of people that combine to produce a magical attraction for the outsiders. Having uniqueness and diversity in regard to ethnicity customs, social structures as well as natural phenomenon e.g. flora and fauna, Shangri-la for its scenic beauty and uneven/unrequited ecological and natural environmental variation ranging from the Terai plains to mountains and high Himalayas representing richness in biological and cultural diversity can contribute to prosperity and progress of the nation. Although it is rich in panoramic scenic beauty and paramount resources, the country has not been able to absorb its property for the multidimensional development of the nation. The country has been consistently ranked as one of the poorest countries in the world. A report reveals that Nepal's poverty headcounts remained 30.85 percent in 2003/004. GDP per capita income of Nepal was recorded US \$459 (IMF,2008) or US\$ 441 (World Bank, 2008) in 2008. A large portion of total population are residing in rural area. So there is a great challenge to the nation to eliminate the massive poverty of the country through gradual development of the area and to provide basic need to the people. To overcome these challenges, the nation has been conducting some efforts however, are not gainful. The efforts are being in vain to some extent. In this situation the development and promotion of tourism sector can play a vital role in Nepal's overall development. Development and promotion of tourism sector contributes to generate employment to male and female and income opportunities. Tourism helps to create foreign exchange earnings. Foreign exchange earns from tourism on 1999 was 168\$which is around 4 percent of GDP (MOF, 2003). Tourism also increases government revenue through various types of taxation and reduce nation trade deficits. Tourism has also socio- cultural significance. It helps to develop international peace, friendship and understandings. Late king Birendra has expressed the similar views, which we quote hereunder:

"Tourism if cultivated properly may help a country to earn foreign exchange as well as friends from across the land seas helping to forge link of mutual understanding and appreciations for a better world of tomorrow." Thus, tourism is emerging as good option for rural development as well as for uplifting living standard of people in developing countries like Nepal.

Tourism is a vague and broad terminology, which may be defined as "Some of the phenomenon and relationship arising from interaction of tourist business suppliers, host government and host communities in the process of attracting and host in this tourists and other visitors"(Macintosh, 1995). In wide and comprehensive term, tourism as the science, art and business of attracting and transporting visitors accommodating them and graciously catering their needs and wants. On the other hand ecotourism is new concept; it is quite popular in tourism literature and tourism activities at present. The Ecotourism Society defines ecotourism as " purposefull travel to natural areas to understand the culture and natural history of environment, taking care not to alter the integrity of the eco system, while producing economic opportunities that make the conservation of natural resources beneficial to the local people" (Goeldner *et al.*,2000:557).

In 1983 a tour operator in Costa Rica registered the word 'Ecotourism' for his tour operating business. Soon after this the word was used in a few public articles in Costa Rica. The term ecotourism is defined as travelling to relatively undisturbed natural areas with such objectives as studying, admiring and enjoying the scenery with its flora and fauna as well as the people who live nearby their needs, their culture and relationship to the land . Nature travel is an experience that contributes to conservation of the environment while maintaining and enhancing the integrity of the natural and socio cultural elements. Ecotourism in now seen as model of development in which natural areas are planned as part of tourism economic base , and biological resources and ecological process are clearly linked to social and economic sectors. Ecotourism is conservation led. It has emerged as a result of increasing global concern for disappearing culture and ecosystem. Ecotourism to be sustainable the type and extent of tourism activity must be balanced against the capacity of the natural and man made resources available.

Growth and development of traditional mass tourism in the environmentally fragile areas caused destruction and deteriorating the fragile environment results the ecosystem eroded or disturbed. To get rid of the problems of traditional mass or quantitative tourism the alternative concept of environment friendly ecotourism was introduced in early 1980s. Adventure, trekking, wildlife seeing, rafting, hunting, bird watching, sightseeing village tour, jungle safari, kayaking, canoeing, mountaineering etc. are the activities of ecotourism that have high potentialities in new genre of tourism. There is a growing market for ecotourism across the World in present. Ecotourism comprises over 50% of the total tourist business worldwide & growth in ecotourism shows as increasing trend in the worldwide tourism industries.

Nepal is a single destination of the worldwide ecotourism because of recognizing as the living museum, Shangri-la root of the World, birth place of the apostle of peace, country of living goddess, nice hospitality of Nepalese people, city of golden pagodas and parasols, Himalayan pilgrimage, wildest dream of Kew, nature amphitheatre, melting pot of Hinduism & Buddhism, navy kingdom of sixty ethnic groups and seventy five spoken languages, birth place of Sita, abode of Shiva, land of mysticism & eroticism, land of nonstop festivals, home land of numerous of flora and fauna ,harboring four heritage sites 2 cultural e.g. Kathmandu and Lumbini & two natural e.g. Sagarmatha and Chitwan national park and rest place of wild animal and bird varieties etc. are explicit of self explanatory our incomparable & prosperous natural cultural heritage. Thousands of visitors come to Nepal & its myriad exotic natural, cultural, and spiritual features that exceed the further prospect of ecotourism in Nepal; therefore Nepal has been ranked among the top ten ecotourism destinations in the world. Similarly recognized as top destination for trekking in its mountains and hills.

For the purpose of development and promotion of ecotourism and conservation of environment and its biodiversity, the government has initiated 3 conservation areas, 3 wild life reserves, 1 hunting reserves and 9 national parks etc. All these Protected Areas occupies 19% of the total area of the nation. In 9th five years development plan the government has paid attention to the concept of ecotourism development and promotion, afterwards government organization, civil society, NGOs, INGOs etc. are showing theirs interest in nature based tourism contribution to both conservation and

poverty alleviation. Tinjure, Milke and Jaljala (TMJ) area is popular for rhododendron. 28 among 32 species of rhododendron found in Nepal are found in this area. Sabhapokhari is a pond which has religious importance. Many people visit Sabhapokhari during a Hindu festival called *Janaipurnima*. Sabhapokhari is the origin of *Sabha khola* (river). There are several caves, springs, green forest, and the beautiful jungle of rhododendron in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Milke Danda rhododendron conservation area is first community managed conservation area in Nepal. TMJ area is rich in biodiversity. Variety of herbs, flowers, birds, and animals are found in this area. This area is rich in cultural heritage so there is higher potentiality of ecotourism. Properly managed ecotourism can create employment opportunities in local area and also can uplift the living standard of local people.

1.2 Statement of the Problem.

Tourism is the backbone-leading sector for the economic development of developing countries like Nepal. However, it has not well developed and tourism activities are not successful to be pro-poor. Tourism is the result of movement, entry & stay; it is a composite product and outcomes of attraction, accessibility, accommodation and amenities. Elements and components of tourism are the prime factors or indicators process of development of tourism. Development and scope of tourism depends up on the quality and quantity of products/components. Most of potential tourist destinations (except few destinations e.g. Kathmandu, Pokhara, Chitwan) are deprived of transportation, communication, accommodation & amenities. Highly potential but unexplored tourist destinations are not advertised and promoted sufficiently so that large chunk of probable tourists do not know about Nepal in international front.

The two word Peace and tourism are highly interrelated to each other. Peace is essential for tourism and tourism can also bring peace in the country, Although there is significant contribution of tourism for the development of national economy, about (4%) and 18% of total foreign exchange earnings (Hummel, 1999). Majority of the population (85.8%) of Nepal lives in rural area (Kunwar, 2006). Rural people have not yet been able to create much economic opportunities. Negligible benefit from tourism is distributed among the population of hills and mountains. In more remote rural area

less than 1% is spent locally (ibid, 1999). Village people, culture, tradition, flora & fauna ,views of natural beauty, touristic activities as trekking, mountaineering, paragliding, skating, rock climbing, bee hunting etc. are the major tourist products found only in rural areas in Nepal. But unfortunately the owners of those products have been deprived of the benefit from the tourism industry. It is estimated that these tourists spend less than 10% of their money locally and 90% of their money is spent in cities especially for travel agents, tourism organizations and industries.

Therefore, there is lack of a careful planning to provide the benefits for local people and avoid the well documented negative side effects of tourism on the rural ecology, culture and economy. Without adequate planning and tourism development only richer individuals and urban based organizations will benefit from the economic opportunities of tourism and tourism in fact may increase the economic, environmental and socio cultural cost of the area visited.

Ecotourist loves to nature and enjoys its unique beauty. Produce by diversity in flora and fauna, topography, climate etc. but rapid growing population deteriorates the forest to fulfill their needs. It causes deforestation, loss of bio-diversity, landslide, flood and soil erosion, such effort ends the panoramic & wonderful scenic beauty of environment or the products of tourism. The native Nepalese cultural products as folk songs, flute tune, feast gets mordanized; replaced by external products. Red mud walled, thatched roofed round houses being replaced by brick buildings. The dressing pattern, smile and hospitality all native aspirations are being lost.

There are so many potential tourist products in the Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale and Sabhapokhari area. It is home place for the 28 species of rhododendrons which is also national flower of Nepal. Hill, rocky slopes, larger grazing land, beautiful scene of Himalayan, natural caves, ponds, lakes and springs are the major attraction of tourism available there. Kanchanjunga conservation area is another best tourist destination for several tourists. So many tourists from different country can appeal to visit this area but due to lack of publicity, development, and lack of necessary physical facilities, very little tourist visit every year. The tourist visiting this area do not buy any foods in the local area and they prefer to stay in tent rather than as home stay. So little

amount is spent in the local area. Due to lower income from tourism local people are not being interested for further ecotourism development. The more local people are benefited from the local tourism, the more is their commitment to develop and preserve tourism products. There are many more problems to develop this area as the best tourism destination for the foreign tourist as well as domestic tourist. It is most urgent to analyse the major prospects and problems of ecotourism development in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Very little research has been conducted so far in the study site about the problem and prospect of ecotourism. A detail research and feasibility study is an urgent to develop this area as a successful tourist destination. This study helps to analyze the major weakness and provides appropriate recommendation to overcome all the problems that are hindering development of this area as the best tourism destination.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to explore the prospect and problems of tourism development and its impact on the livelihood of local people of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. The specific objectives are as follows:

1. To study the present state of tourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area .
2. To explore the major problems and prospects of tourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.
3. To explore the impact of tourism on livelihood of local people.

1.4 Importance of the Study

TMJ and sabhaapokhari area is paramount of socio-cultural and natural assets. It is the home place of Rhododendron. 28 variety of rhododendron are found in this area. It is the first community managed rhododendron conservation area of Nepal. There are several natural caves, rocks, grazing land, pasture land, several fresh water pond and lakes. Many more domestic and foreign tourist like to visit this beautiful flower garden every year. It is linked with the Arun valley which is lowest valley of the world. Due to lack of infrastructure and promotion of this area, very few tourist are visiting this area every year. That study helped to explore the major problems and

potentialities of community based ecotourism development in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

Niraula kalidas recorded 63 medicinal plants found in TMJ area. TMJ area can be best botanical lab for the research of different identified and unidentified medicinal plants and their usage .It is a place of god gifted natural assets, panoramic, scenic beauty of mountains, Himalayas, river basin, wild life, favorable climate & other attraction which may be of great interest for the tourists. Even though it had a lot of assets for the development and promotion of Ecotourism, they were not in use regarding to ecotourism purpose. This study analyzed the problems concerned to the development and promotion of ecotourism in that area. That is why this study can be the crucial importance for the ecotourism planners, policy makers, governments, NGOS and INGOs etc.

Now, socio- cultural products are being depleted & natural environment is deteriorated. City centered tourism does not address problem of the poor local people; the benefit from tourism is also not equitably distributed. On the other hand the government did not gave priority to the development and promotion of ecotourism destination, so this study fined out the reason that cause above problems as well as recommended the proper solution. In this context the concept of ecotourism is only the alternative to cope these problems. Therefore this study is crucial significant for the resolution.

A small area of about 16296 hectores (DFO, 2007) TMJ area is home place to 28 species of rhododendron, the national flower of the kingdom of Nepal. According to studies 32 species of these beautiful flowers are found in Nepal. Some 850 Species of rhododendron is throught to be spread all over the world .As an elevation of 2000 feet to 3000 feet from sea level is favorable for this flower ,this area is most suitable for the growth of rhododendron . It grows up to 60 feet in height.

Local community in the eastern hill district of *sankhuwasabha*, *Terhathum*, and *Taplejung* are all set to preserve the richly biodiversity area by themselves without the help of the Government authorities. This was the first time in Nepal that a local

community had initiated the conservation of a larger area which is rich in plants and animals.

About 77000 local people of 16 VDCs of conservation area take care of national flora and fauna .Many hope that once the rhododendron conservation is made official, it will also help to promote tourism industry of the country by making up a new tourist destination.

Local people can earn money by establishing rhododendron nursery and exporting the rhododendron plants to urban areas as well as foreign country.

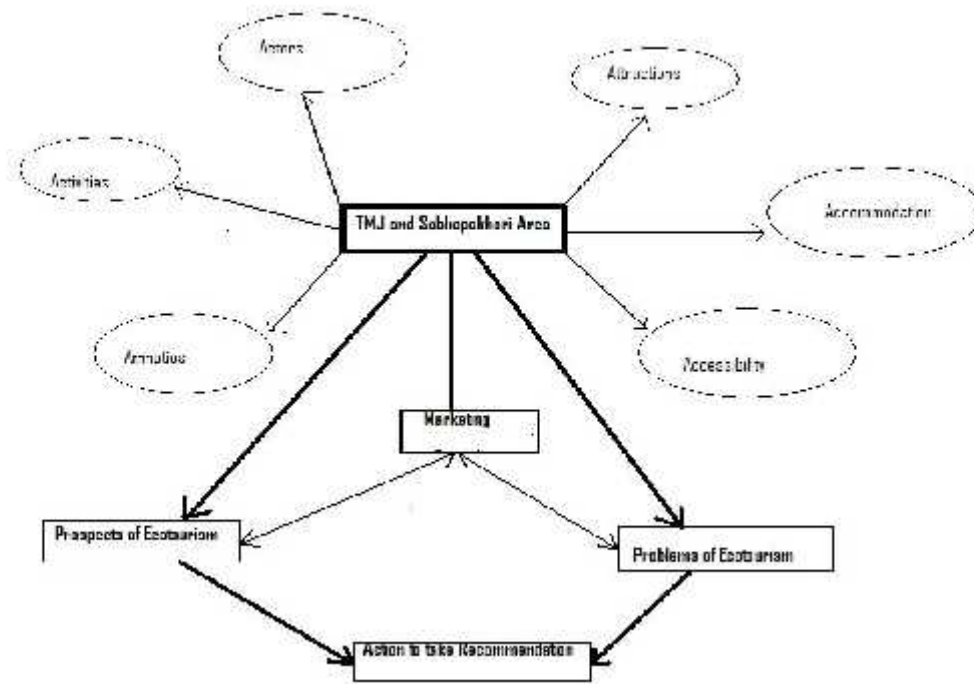
Though there are several potentialities of ecotourism development in the TMJ area, nominal number of tourist are visiting that area every year. This study fined out the major reason that is why nominal number of tourist are visiting the area. This study also identified the major problems so that very few tourists are visiting the area and also gave some important recommendation to solve these problems So that this study was important.

This study was mainly concerned with the prospects and major problems of tourism industry in sankhuwasabha district. This study focused on the available resources , tourism products and activities to be implemented for further development . Due to time and financial limitation this study was concentrated only in Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale and sabhapokari area.

1.5 Conceptual Framework.

The study area is naturally beautiful and rich in biodiversity and climatic variation. Many tourists visit this area for various purpose such as Study, trekking, trade and to observe the natural beauties.

The study explores the linkage between tourism industry and its socio cultural and environmental impact on the study area. This research also explores major tourism products their status consumption pattern and protection measures practiced by local community people. The following picture makes clear the conceptual frame work of the study.



1.6 Organization of the Study

Chapter one deals as a introduction of the study. Introduction chapter is further divided in to six sub-chapter. Chapter one deals with background of the study, statement of the problems, major objectives of the study, importance and limitation, conceptual framework and lastly organization of the study. Organization of the study describes how the study was organized ?

Chapter two is about literature review. This chapter deals the related previous study about the prospects and problems of tourism in Nepal and also in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Literatures has been reviewed under the ten sub-chapter.

Chapter three is research methodology. This chapter describes the methods and methodology used to conduct this thesis. Descriptive research design was used as research design. Datas were collected from primary and secondary sources. Questionnaire, field survey and informal interview were used to collect primary data. Secondary data were collected from published and unpublished books, reports, documentary and drafts. Secondary data were collected from TUCL, IUCN, NTB and online library. This chapter also describes the methods used to analyse the collected data and limitation of this study.

Chapter four is the introduction of the study area. Chapter 4.1 describes the introduction of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. In this introduction chapter Geography, natural environment, socio-economic environment, biodiversity and infrastructure of the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Chapter 4.2 deals with the demography, settlement pattern and literacy status of the study area.

Chapter five summarizes the prospects and problems of tourism development in Sankhuwasabha describes it in detail about the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Major tourism product of Sankhuwasabha district and major tourism attraction of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area are presented in this chapter. Chapter five has identified the major problems faced by TMJ and Sabhapokhari area for tourism development in local level.

Collected data are presented and analysed by using different tools and techniques in the chapter six. This Chapter deals with tourist arrival in Nepal, Sankhuwasabha district as well as TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Tourist visiting purposes, means of transportation tourist used, structure of respondents, age and sex structure of the tourist were described in this chapter. Socio-economic, cultural and environmental impact of tourism were also presented in this chapter.

Chapter seven is summary conclusion and recommendation chapter. This chapter the study was summarized and the researcher was reached in conclusion. This chapter also gives important recommendations after this in depth study.

CHAPTER 2

Literature Review

2.1 Introduction

Etymologically the word tour is derived from the Latin 'tornare and the Greek 'tornos' meaning ' a lathe or circle; the movement around a central point or axis' this meaning changed in modern, English to represent one's turn. The suffix 'ism' is defined as 'an action or process, typical behavior or quality; while the suffix 'its' denotes 'one that performs a given action'. When the word tour and the suffixes ism and its are combined, they suggest the action of movement around a circle. one can argue that circle represents a starting point, which ultimately returns to its beginning. Therefore, like a circle, a tour represents a journey that is a round-trip, ie. The act of leaving and then returning to the original starting point, and therefore, one who takes such a journey and be called a tourist (Theobald, 1997:6). 'Travel', after all, has etymological connections with travel with work and activity while tourism represents a packaged form of experience in which passivity prevails and contact with the alien and the real is avoided or prevented. The word tourism was for the first time described in the Oxford English Dictionary in 1811 (Cellabous Lascurain, 1996:1-2). This reveals that the word tourism did not appear in the English language until the early nineteenth century, and the word 'tour was more closely associated with the idea of a voyage or peregrination or a circuit. Then, with the idea of an individual being temporary away from home for pleasure a purposes a significant feature of the use of the word 'tourist' came into being.

Tourism is not a new phenomenon for Hindus. In Sanskrit literature there is different terms for tourism derived from the root *atan*, which means leaving home for some time to older places (Neg.op cit,22). They had different types of tourism known as *paryatana* (going out for pleasure and knowledge): *deshatana* (going out other countries primarily for economic gain): and *tirthatan* (going to the place of religious importance). We get even many reference of *akhet*(hunting) and *vihara*(excursions).

Economic growth increased per capita income which favored the growth and development of tourism. Tourism comprises intuitions of travelling, lodging, boarding

and shopping the leisure time available to an individual has in general, increased since world war II so tourism industry has also been developed.

Tourism is often considered as "the golden goose that lays the golden egg"; a sources of income and stimulus for more employment.

2.2 Conceptual Definition

The most widely accepted, but technical, definition of the tourist was proposed by the International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO) in 1963 and approved in 1968 by the World Tourist Organization (Leiper,1979:393). It states that international tourist are temporary visitors staying at least twenty-four hours in the country visited and the purpose of whose journey can be classified under one of the following headings (a) Leisure(recreation, holiday, health, study, religion and sport) (b)business (family mission, meeting) . It is clear that one who visits abroad at least for twenty-four hours is called the tourist. the definition is useful primarily for "statistical", legislative and industrial purpose" but it is unsatisfactory for most sociological work because it is too broad and theoretically barren.

Tourism planners have different interpretations of tourism in accordance with their individual's needs and orientation. As such, their approach to defining tourism will reflect more specific technical attributes.

Tourism can be defined in terms of one's reason for travelling whether it be for leisure, family reasons, or business. for example American Express claims that: travel and tourism is a vast complex network of business engaged in the lodging, transportation, feeding and entertainment of travelers(ibid.).

According to British Tourist Authority, a tourist trip is defined as "a stay of one or more nights away from home for holidays, visits to friends or relatives, business conferences or any other purpose, except boarding education or semi-permanent employment" .

Tourism is the temporary movement of people to destination outside their normal places of work and residence, the activities undertaken during the stay in those destinations, and the facilities created to cater to their needs. The purpose of travelling is to visit friends and relatives, for relaxation and recreation, meeting people,

personal growth and development, learning about new places, cultural enrichment and interaction, spiritual renewal, pursuing is only part of the picture.

Tourism embraces various other trades and industries, including the airlines, rail, cruise, accommodation and food services industries. It also involves tour wholesalers, retailers and variety of attractions, as well as a wide range of other private and public services and facilities.

Today tourism is being christened as "3G" industry(get them in , get their money and get them out), clean industry, smokeless industry , complex industry, invisible industry, vacation industry, fickle industry, seasonal industry , peoples industry, decentralized industry, service industry, , industry of industry, peace industry, sex industry and so on.

What exactly is the tourism industry? Is there any such monolithic thing as the title implies in fact, what we call tourism really embraces a vast and diverse range of activities from large-scale mass or package tours to small-scale, individual-tailored holidays, from internal domestic visits to family or friends, to international or intercontinental journeys, to business trips and sun, sand, sea recreational parks; from activity, sports nature, health, green or alternative holidays to culture or adventure.

2.3 Evolution of Tourism

While talking about tourism, it is necessary to discuss about evolution of tourism and famous travelers of the world. The great explorer Columbus set out to find a new route to India and in the process discovered the new world. Young Marco Polo left Venice in the year 1271 with his father and uncle. They travelled through Persia and Afghanistan to the roof of the world. Then unknown Pamir plateau. Tony Hagen visited almost districts of Nepal. He was first person who received authority to visit out of Kathmandu valley. He contributed a lot for the tourism development of Nepal.

The concept of pleasure travel as it existed in the west can be associated with the Roman Empire. Romans probably were the first pleasure travelers. Romans were able to travel over a hundred miles in a day using relays of horses. They journeyed primarily to see famous temples in the Mediterranean areas particularly monuments and the famous pyramids of Egypt. The Romans also travelled during holiday occasions, particularly the famous Olympic Games (Kunwar, 2006). "Spas" and

seaside resorts which developed during this period may be associated with pleasure travel.

ILO took the initiative of drawing up a convention of paid holidays which required the member states to grant a paid holiday of a minimum paid holiday at six weeks per year (Kunwar, 2006).

Thus industrial revolution in the 19th century gave birth to a large and prosperous group in western Society. Industrialization grew and trade and commerce developed as result prosperous group became richer. Increasing industrial activities in turn gave rise to new settlement; town and cities were established to accommodate increasing number of labor force engaged in industries. Thus three major development ; increase in wealth of industrial society, development of means of transport and travel organization earned extra ordinary growth of tourism during the last 50 years throughout the globe (Kunwar, 2006).

With the rapid growth and development of tourism industry in the world, many more national, regional and international organizations were established throughout the world. Many of these agencies are associations of travel agents, tour operators, airlines and hoteliers to bring them together into a common platform. At the international level the international union of official Travel Organization (IUOTO) was established in 1947 as the first inter-governmental body for the promotion and development of travel and tourism. It was succeeded by the world Tourism organization (WTO) as an associate agency of United Nations (UN) system.

The pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA), the American Society of Travel Agencies (ASTA),United Federation of Travel Agents(UFTA) world Tourism and Travel Council(WTTC) are few of the major international agencies in the field of tourism.

In Nepal , tourism committee was formed and established in 1957. tourism committee converted into department of tourism in1961, for he proper development and management of tourism industry , ministry of tourism was established in 1978. Tourism and civil aviation was established on 2057, ultimately for the proper development and management of tourism industry, Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) was established on 1999. It is central organization to formulate pan and policy in the country.

2.4 Components of Tourism

Tourism has five major components they are equally important. Transportation, accommodation, attraction, food catering, infrastructure and souvenir shops. Transportation enables to visit a destination place, accommodation caters for his well being there, food catering helps him to survive there and infrastructure enables successful functioning of all these components (Kunwar, 2006, pp22).

2.5 Forms of Tourism

Valene L smith (1989: 4-5) has identified five forms of tourism on the basis of different kinds of leisure mobility undertaken by the tourist as i) Ethnic tourism ii) Cultural tourism iii) Historical tourism iv) Environmental tourism v) Recreational tourism.

2.6 Concept of Ecotourism

Ecotourism is new and very popular concept in tourism industry. In 1983 a tour operator in Costa Rica registered the word ecotourism for his tour operating business .Ecotourism is also known as environmental friendly tourism or alternative tourism and environment is closely attached to each other. Ecotourism is a tool for conservation. Ecotourism is ecologically responsible tourism. the ecotourism society defines ecotourism as "purposeful travel to natural areas to understand the culture and natural history of the environment taking care not to alter the integrity of the ecosystem, while producing economic opportunities that make the conservation of natural resources beneficial to the local people" (Goeldner et al,2000:557).

Ecotourism that involves travelling relatively to undisturbed or uncontaminated natural areas with the specific objective of studying, admiring and enjoying the scenery and its wild plants and animals as well as any existing cultural areas in which the conservation of ecosystem and protection of bio-diversity is aimed (Kunwar, 2006, pp164).

Eco-tourists are those who visit natural areas and enjoy in natural environment.

Tourism can be classified into rural tourism and urban tourism. Rural tourism and community tourism are new concept in tourism industry which has great significance

for socio-economic development of rural community. Rural Tourism in purest form would be located in rural areas, functionally rural built upon the rural worlds special features of small scale enterprise with nature and the nature world heritage traditional societies and traditional practices rural in scale-both in terms of building and settlements and therefore usually small scale traditional in character growing slowly and organically and connected with local families. It will alone be very largely controlled locally and developed for the long term good of the area of many different kinds representing and complex pattern of rural environment , economy, history, location, culture , religion, symbolism, religious belief , scared lakes, festivals, animal husbandry, agro-pastoralist, dress and ornaments, attire, domestic archives, and nature-man-spirit. Complex or interaction between culture and ecology.

Ganon (ibid) express that rural tourism is socio economic environment business and can therefore generate both advantage in the economic, social and environmental sphere. To avoid growth potential problems a careful assessment of both advantage and disadvantage should be made at preplanning stage by the community and the actors concerned. The following outline of benefits and costs can assist in the decision making process.

2.6.1 Cost and Benefits of Ecotourism

There are both costs and benefits of ecotourism tourism. It brings foreign currency, increases employment opportunities and level of income of people provide the opportunity for innovation and creativity helps to develop local craft and traded. Tourism provides part-time employment degrades environment may increase cost of living of community people.

2.7 Concept of Village Tourism

Village tourism is latest concept in tourism .the concept of the holidays village was started by club Mediterranean. This is a kind of micro model tourism whereas rural tourism I based on macro model. Village tourism refers to tourist staying in or near village often traditional village in remote areas and learning about the village way of life. The village may also serve as a base from which tourist explore nearby areas (mcintyre, 1993:59: WTO; 19). The village tourism involves provision of local style

accommodation, locally produced food items on tourist menus and the organization of tourist participation in village activities. The villager's builds own inns and operate the tourist facilities and service and receive direct economic benefits from tourist expenditures. Village tours must be carefully organized and controlled to minimize negative socio-cultural impacts for the development of village tourisms a village must be self-reliant. There are approximately 36000 baggers or smaller village in Nepal but all of those cannot be tourist destinations, therefore that village which is culturally politically, ritually religiously socially economically historically and politically self-reliant and independent could be selected as the tourist destination from particulars areas

Ghaleguan, Bandipur, Sirubari are developed as village tourism destination. There are so many potential villages around Kathmandu valley for tourism development but that are under the shadow. It is necessary to explore new destination of tourism. Basantapur, Tutadeurali, Chaukiand Gupha Pokhari village can be new tourist destination. There is a higher potentiality of tourism form various aspects.

Kathmandu is also known as town of temples. There are so many historical temples which are them self tourism products. Nepal is good destination for pilgrimage tourism. In Hindu tradition the pilgrim is known as *yatri*. in context of *yatri* , Morins writes a person is on pilgrimage when he consciously sees himself to be so , and adopts the *yatri* role with whatever dress behavior attitudes ect. that such a role might involve. Pilgrimage tourism is significant types of tourism for place such a Vatican Rome, and meca medina in Saudi, Lumbini and Pashupatinath of Nepal.

Tourism is smokeless industry. Tourism industry contributes a lot for economic development of a region or country. Tourism is multidimensional and interdisciplinary subject which has several benefits. According to Gannon the rural tourism is a socio-economic, environmental business and can therefore generates both advantage and disadvantage in social, economic, and environmental sphere. Tourism and agriculture are interrelated to each other. Tourism industry provides part-time / fulltime employment opportunities to the local and it also provides market for agricultural products. Tourism has serious impacts on environment, so we have to make plan to reduce negative impacts of tourism.

2.8 Contribution of Tourism in National Economy

If we analyze economic survey of Nepal we can see that the contribution of Hotels and Restaurants is Rs 3061 billion in FY 063/64. It was Rs 2895.13 billion in FY 62/63 and Rs 2805.06 billion on FY 61/62. The contribution of tourism industry in national GDP is in increasing rate. GDP growth rate was -18.23%, 2.01%, 12.74%, -5.41%, 6% & 2.81% in FY 58/59, 59/60, 60/61, 61/62, 62/63 & 63/64 respectively. Peace and tourism are interrelated to each other. Nepalese tourism industry was adversely affected by terrorism in Nepal but after peace process tourist arrival has increased. If we analyze structure of national GDP, Hotel and restaurant had contributed 1.99%, 1.61%, 1.59%, 1.73%, 1.57%, 1.49% & 1.42% in FY 57/58, 58/59, 59/60, 60/61, 61/62, 62/63 & 63/64 respectively (economic survey FY 63/64). While talking about employment opportunities, 13970000 people received employment in FY 62/63 (Economic Survey, FY 63/64).

Nepal earned Rs 9556 million in FY 62/63 which is lesser than in 61/62 by 8.68%. Only in first eight months of FY 63/64 Nepal earned 6176 million which is 4.4% of total foreign currency earned by Nepal.

There are huge potentialities of tourism industry in Nepal. Verities of tourism activities can be conducted in different parts of Nepal. There are 9 National parks, 3 wildlife reserves, and 3 conservation areas which are potential areas of ecotourism. 8 among 14 highest peaks of the world are only in Nepal. Several historical temples, Durbar, Royal palace, Nepalese culture and hospitality are the tourism attraction of Nepal.

2.9 Tourism Plan in Budget

Nepalese government has given top priority for tourism promotion activities world widely. Nepal government has given priority for development and promotion of tourism industry in budget of FY 65/66. Nepal government has estimated to attract 1 million tourists per year. For the attraction of attention of tourist from different countries Nepal is planning to celebrate "Nepal Tourism Year" in 2011 (International Forum, Nov. 2008). Nepal declared 'Nepal tourism year 2011' for the promotion of tourism industry. To increase international flight of Nepal airlines govt. is planning to purchase two new aeroplanes. Government made provision of Rs 280 million for

tourism infrastructure development in Budget of FY 65/66 (ibid). This Budget has plan to construct international airport in Bara district and regional airport in *Pokhara* and *Bhairaba* (ibid).

2.10 Review of Related Studies

There are so many studies which have been conducted on tourism by different scholars in Nepal and in foreign countries. In order to make the study more reliable some of the important studies are reviewed.

I.K. pradhan conducted a study on developing tourist resort and its economic impact in 1975. the study deals with the need for improving tourist resorts in Nepal. the major aim of developing tourist to see that the tourist are able to spend as much as possible which depends on the context of opportunities provides to them . There are few resorts which are not free form problem.

Dipak Chandra Ghimire conducted a research on problem and prospects of tourism in *chitwan*, a case study of *Sauraha*. He found that tourist visit *Sauraha* basically for of National parks and wild Animals. Peaceful environment, sightseeing, Boating, Elephant Riding and recreation. Some tourist also comes to *Sauraha* for cultural exchange .He summarizes he study that, tourism in *Sauraha* had its own impact on economical and social condition of *Sauraha*. It's development has brought a number of change on the life of the local people .the perception and ideology of people are also changed. Tourism has provided jobs for a large number of skilled and unskilled workers directly or indirectly (Ghimire, 2003).

He conclude that increasing inflow of tourist in *Chitwan* is good symptoms for tourism development but crowed of people may destroy the natural beauty of *Chitwan* National parks. So every precaution has to be taken to minimize the destruction of the environment and to strike a balance between tourism and conservation.

He recommends that, the main attraction of *Chitwan* is peaceful environment and endangered wild animal so the hotels inside the park must be shifted outside the park.

Chitwan has one of the world's best National park listed in the world Heritage sites. So any critical appreciations on park management. Evaluation of locals demand and socio-economic analysis of such global monumental heritage sites should not be

biased on local, commercial and political thinking. Approach should be thinking globally and act locally.

Mr. Basanta Rokaya conducted a research on *Prospect of Eco-tourism in Upper Humla* (Rokaya,2006).He wrote on his conclusion that, *Humla* is hidden and treasures Himalayan which is open and living ethnic museum. It is also home of caravan i.e. yak caravan, sheep goat caravan and mule caravan. Although the area is full of nature and cultural beauties, tourism has not developed as expected. Some tourism activities had been done for tourism development of *Humla*.

Since the opening of the *Simikot* airport 1978 and the route to *Kailash* later in 1993 tourist started to visit Humla although tourist landed in Nepal after the established of democracy in 1951. Trend of tourist arrival in Humla is a little fluctuating due to political instability, many physical problems as well as others such as lack of advertisement, policy, plans, programs, information center, and lack of good infrastructure, and super structure. Majority of the tourists visited Humla for trekking to Kailash and Mansarobar.

At the end of his research he recommends that government should develop and maintain major trekking route, campsites along with the facilities like drinking water, toilet, electricity etc. with local people's participation for the proper development of tourism industry in Upper Humla. He emphasizes on Promotion and Publicity of Humla, and also on infrastructure development, establishment of tourist information centre and linking the Humla to different district. He also recommends that GOs and NGOs should actively and coordinatevely take part to mobilize the local people to develop and promote ecotourism. He emphasizes that humla is different than other districts due to its cultural heritage so that culture should be preserved.

Dipak Raj Dhakal has conducted a research on *Problems and Prospects of ecotourism in Nepal 'a case study of Bandipur'* (Dhakal, 2006). He wrote in his conclusion that there were huge potentialities of tourism industry in Bandipur but its negatives impacts has to be reduced by prompt management system. He concluded that, ecotourism can be only a strategy to cope rural poverty and deprivation. Therefore problems and challenges of ecotourism should be overcome and development and promotion of ecotourism should be accelerated ahead. For this, there is necessity to integrate tourism and management, nature conservation and management, cultural

resource conservation and community development for the benefit of local people and tourists. If ecotourism is adopted, there will be very bright future of Bandipur. It can bring drastic changes in the socio-economic condition of Bandipur. Ecotourism here will conserve the nature and culture with sustainable use of resources by involving local people if it is well planned and managed.

He gave priority on responsible traveler to conserve the local environment and cultural heritage. Both the Government and NGO's should actively take part to mobilize the local peoples to protect resources and the environment.

Dr. Madan Koirala conducted a research on Environmental determinants of the livelihood related food production system in a mid-Himalayan landscape (*Tinjure-Milke Region*), East Nepal (Koirela, 2002). He studied that area from environmental perspectives. He studied the linkage between village ecosystem and its linkage with the natural resources. He studied the present situation, conservation and utilization practice of different natural resource available in that region by local people with its carrying capacity which has significant relation with tourism industry on that region. He reached on conclusion that, the coming of a larger number of tourist in *Tinjure-milke* area compared to other sites may be linked with scenic beauty, rich biodiversity particularly avifauna, and ethnic diversity. The facts perhaps are responsible for tourist flow into the region all the year round, unlike in other situations in Nepal. He studied the pattern of tourist arrival in that region but do not study about the other tourist products such as ponds and lake, *savapokhari* which is main tourist destination for several pilgrimage tourists and which has historical importance.

CHAPTER 3

Research Methodology

3.1 Research Design

The research was conducted under ‘Descriptive Research Design’ because the study describes systematically the major tourism products and tourism activities existing at present . It has been described conservation practices of local people over the locally available natural resources such as rhododendron, lakes and ponds, forest, pasture and grazing land etc. Its conservation trends and how they were being benefited by the same.

3.2 Rationale of the Selection of Study Area

The TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is the national flower garden of rhododendron. Different species of rhododendron are found in the area. There are huge potentialities of tourism development but not explored till now so it has been necessary to explore them. This study has focused on the major tourism attraction and threats of tourism in the study area.

3.3 Sampling Procedure

Since all the member of the community are equal beneficiary of the tourism, from utilization and conservation point of view every member of the society has equal responsibility as consumer and protector. The sample has been taken by using simple random sampling procedure to collect data from general public and also judgmental sampling procedure was used to collect data from key informants. The following table shows the sample taken from the study area.

Area	General Public	Tourism Entrepreneur	Total
Basantapur	7	4	11
Chauki	5	4	9
Mangalbare	5	2	7
Guphapokhari	12	6	18
Total	29	16	45

Sample size has been taken both from general public and tourism entrepreneurs who were directly involved in tourism industry, conservation and protection of the rhododendron in the TMJ and sabhapokhari area.

3.4 Nature and Source of Data

Primary Sources: - Primary data were collected by asking direct question to local community people, hotel owners, local forest users group, tourism experts and tourism entrepreneurs . Primary data of tourist visited in the TMJ area has been collected from daily record book of local police post of Guphapokhari and Tumlingtar.

Secondary Sources:- Secondary data were collected from TU Central library, library of IUCN, NTB, CBS, online library of ICIMOD and different websites, books, other publication, news paper and other published and unpublished reports.

3.5 Methods of Data collection.

Questionnaire was prepared to collect data from the study area. Two different questionnaires were prepared to collect data from the study area. Questions were asked to the local people and also to the tourism entrepreneurs of Basantapur, chauki, Guphapokhari, Nundhaki and also the locally elected representative of the sankhuwasabha district. These questionnaires were field by the local people at the time of survey (see on annex 3). Following table shows the tools and techniques applied to collect data and information from the study area.

3.5.1 Household Survey

Household survey has been carried out to collect the actual information and data from the study area and also to identify the view of local people about tourism development in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Questionnaire was used to collect primary data.

3.5.2 Participatory Observation

-To see the major activities of local people

- To see the present condition of hotel, toilet, bathrooms and other physical amenities available in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.
- To observe the environmental impact of tourism in TMJ area.
- To see the major tourist products of the TMJ area.

3.5.3 Key Informants Interview

- To identify the major problems and prospects of ecotourism in TMJ area.
- To identify the plan and policy to be taken to develop that area as a tourist destination.

3.5.4 Focus Group discussion

- To identify the major potentialities and problems of ecotourism in TMJ area by locals.

3.6 Methods of Data Analysis

A hierarchical process was used to analyze and interpret collected data and information. Coding, tabulation, diagrams were used to interpret the collected data.

3.7 Limitation of Study

Tinjure-Milke rhododendron conservation area covers 18 VDCs of 3 districts. Due to funding and time limitation, my study was limited only in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. My study was concentrated on Major tourism products its present utilizing pattern, tourist arrival pattern its impacts on environment, economy and culture of local people of study area.

CHAPTER 4

Introduction of the Study Area.

4.1 Study Area

4.1.1 Introduction of TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area

TMJ and Sabhapokhari area located in the eastern part of Sankhuwasabha district. It is rich in natural beauty and resources. This area is rich in biodiversity. TMJ is the capital of Rhododendron and Sabhapokhari is well known pond which has historical and religious importance. Sabhapokhari is one of the best *Tirtha* for Hindu tourist.

❖ Geography

Conservation area covered 18 VDCs of Sankhuwasabha, Terhathum and Taplejung district. Total conservation area has 16296.25 hectares and average elevation ranges from 1600 meter to 3500 meter (DFO, 2007).

❖ Environment

Natural environment of *Milke dada* conservation area is beautiful. We can see scenic beauties such as Arun Valley, Tamor Valley, Mt. Makalu, Mt. Kanchanjanga, Mt. Kumbhakarna and beautiful rhodendron forest etc. from Milke Danda. Large grazing land, pasture land, natural caves, many types of lakes and ponds, springs are also the assets of this area. Verities of herbs plants such as *chiraito*, *jatamasi*, *harra*, *barra*, *amala* are also found in this area. Average temperature ranges from 10°celsius to 15°celsius and average rainfall is 1141mm.

❖ Socio-economic Environment

Religion:- Hindu, Buddhist and Kirat.

Occupation:- Agriculture, livestock rearing, herbs trade and foreign employment.

Biodiversities:- TMJ rhododendron conservation area is rich in biodiversity. Total of 28 species of rhododendron are identified in the conservation area. Verities of *Pinewood*, *Katus*, *Bamboo*, *Kimbu*, *Aamala*, *Lapsi*, *Harro*, *Barro*, *Padamchal*, *Kharana*, *Kholma*, *Phalate*, *Sunpati*, *Dhupi*, *Rudrashkya*, *Loktha*, *Sharito*, *Argali*, *Chaboo*, *Jatamasi*, *Sugandhakokila*, *Lemongrass* and other varieties of herbs are

found in the conservation area(DFO, 2007) . Milke jaljala area is rich in flora and fauna .

Infrastructure:- TMJ and Sabhapokhari area was not fully electrified but small peltric sets were installed near Chauki and Guphapokhari village. Basantapur is connected by all weather road and central electricity transmission line. Road from Basantapur to Guphapokhari was under construction. It was hoped that, the road would be complected within next three years. One telephone was found in Chauki, three other telephone were found in Guphapokhari. Telephone and internet facility was available in Basantapur. Hospital ,hotel facilities were not available in Chauki, Guphapokhari and the trekking route. We can travel by bus from Dharan to Basnantapur .Tinjure-Milke-jaljala conservation area is most suitable area for rhododendron. 28 among 32 species identified in Nepal are available in Tinjure-Milke-Jaljala area. It is the home place for rhododendron , so that this study site is most appropriate for rhododendron conservation . Local people are also highly interested to conserve rhododendron forest. Poverty is the major hurdles for conservation of rhododendron forest in local level. People have to depend upon the rhododendron forest for fuel-wood, fodder and timber.

4.2 Demography

4.2.1 Settlement Pattern

Both of the VDCs have heterogeneous population. Major casts are Rai, Magar, Chhetri, Gurung, Dalit, Newar etc. Total house hold of Jaljala VDCs is 1067 and Sabhapokhari VDC is 553 average house hold size is 5.39 and 5.61 (Population Census, 2001).

4.2.2 Population Composition

Total population of Jaljala VDC 5748 (Male 2805, female: 2943)

Total Population of Sabhapokhari VDC 3105 (Male 1500, female 1650)

(Population Census , 2001).

4.2.3 Ethnic Composition

The TMJ and Sabhapokhari area was found rich in ethnic diversity. The major ethnic group were Limbu, Tamang, Chhetri and Rai. Newar, Gurung, Sherpa, Dalit, Bhote were also living in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area for a long time.

Tourists were found entertaining the varieties of culture of different ethnic community. The following table shows the ethnic composition of the TMJ area.

Table No. 4.1 Ethnic Composition

VDC	Rai	Chhetri	Tamang	Dalit	Bhaun	Gurung	Sherpa	Newar	Limbu	Yakkha	Magar	Bhote	Other	Total
Jaljale	529	1693	1067	674	291	142	377	14	366	369	0	0	226	5748
Percentage	9.2	29.45	18.56	11.72	5	2.47	6.55	0.24	6.36	6.41	-	-	3.93	100%
Sabhapokhari	659	44	561	179	92	159	0	0	1304	0	65	0	42	3105
Percentage	21.22	1.41	18	5.76	2.96	5.12	-	-	42	-	2	-	1.35	100%
Total	1188	1737	1628	853	383	301	377	14	1670	369	65	0	68	8853

Source:- CBS, 2001.

The above table shows the ethnic composition of the Jaljale and Sabhapokhari VDC. Chhetri had the highest percentage of total population and Newar had lowest percentage of Jaljale VDC. 42% of total population of Sabhapokhari VDC were Limbu. Only 2% of total population were Magar which was lowest population in the Sabhapokhari VDC.

4.2.4 Literacy Status of the Study Area

The literacy status of Jaljale VDC and Sabhapokhari VDC is shown in following table no 4.2.

Table No. 4.2 Literacy Status of Jaljale and Sabhapokhari VDC

VDC	Literacy Percentage
Jaljale	41.1
Sabhapokhari	29.20

Sources:- Population Census, 2001

CHAPTER 5

Resources of Tourism Development

Sankhuwasabha is itself a tourist destination. Mount Makalu, Makalu Barun National Park, Arun Valley, Sabhapokhari, TMJ area are the major tourist product of the Sankhuwasabha district. Several tourists visited Sankhuwasabha every year.

Tourism industry is one of the important industries for economic development of Sankhuwasabha.

5.1 State of Tourism in Sankhuwasabha

5.1.1 Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Area

High in the heart of the eastern Himalayas, seven valleys radiate from Mt. Makalu, the world's fifth highest peak. These valleys, particularly the Barun valley, treasure some of the last remaining pristine forest and alpine meadows of Nepal. From the bottom of the Arun valley, at just 435 m above sea level, the Himalayas rise to the snow-capped tip of Makalu 8463 m within a 40 km distance. Within this wide range of altitudes and climates, the Makalu-Barun area contains some of the richest and most diverse pockets of plants and animals in Nepal, elsewhere lost to spreading human habitation.

Nestled in the lower reaches of these valleys are communities of Rai, Sherpa, and Shingsawa (Bhotia) farmers. Though economically poor and isolated, they retain a rich cultural heritage. They hold the key to the preservation of the unique biological and cultural treasures of the Makalu-Barun area.

The Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Area was established in 1992 as Nepal's eighth national park and the first to include an adjacent inhabited conservation area as a buffer. A new park management approach encourages local people to become actively involved in protecting the forests and natural resources upon which their lives depend, and in conserving their own rich cultural heritage. Traditional resource management systems, such as community controlled grazing and

forest guardianship, are being strengthened and low level technologies introduced where appropriate. Working in collaboration with an American NGO, Woodlands Mountain Institute, His Majesty's Government, Nepal is striving to improve local living standards through infrastructure, educational and income-generating activities.

For the naturalist, Makalu-Barun area provides spectacular displays of wild flowers and exotic plants. More than 3000 species of flowering plants, with hundreds of orchid varieties, 48 primroses, and 25 of Nepal's 30 rhododendrons splash the hillsides with color. The forests shelter abundant wildlife, including the endangered red panda and muskdeer as well as the ghoral, Himalayan tahr and leopard. Ornithologists have identified 400 bird species, at least 16 of which are extremely rare.

Covering 2330 sq. km Makalu-Barun is a vital component of the greater Mount Everest ecosystem which includes Nepal's 1,148 sq. km Sagarmatha (Mount Everest) National Park to the west and the 35000 sq. km Comolangma Nature Preserve in the Tibet Autonomous Region of China to the north.

Factsheet about the Makalu Barun National Park:

- J Most of the Makalu-Barun National Park is a remote wilderness, with just two small settlements and seasonal herding in high pastures. Historically, few foreigners have visited the area except for the occasional climbing expedition.
- J The incredibly steep topography and abundant monsoon rains (1000 to 4000 mm per year) of the eastern Himalayan support unusually diverse bioclimatic zones and a rich storehouse of medicinal and useful plants. Alpine pastures above 4000 m contain the religiously important rhododendron and juniper, aromatic herbs and delicate wildflowers, including 47 different varieties of orchids. Subalpine forests of fir, birch and rhododendron, temperate, maple and magnolia thrive between 2-4000 m. Luxuriant orchids drape the chestnut and pine forests of the subtropical zone (1-2000 m) and sal forests reach their northernmost limit within Nepal along the banks of the Arun (below 1000 m).

- J The park has 400 species of birds, including the spotted wren babbler and the olive ground warbler. These two species have never been seen in Nepal before.
- J There are many wild animals including the endangered red panda, Himalayan black bear and the clouded leopard. Other wildlife found in the park are, ghoral, tahr, wild boar, barking deer, Himalayan marmot and weasel, common langur monkey and the serow.
- J The Arun River gushing through the park has around 84 varieties of fish including salmon

5.1.2 Monut. Makalu

Makalu is the world's fifth highest peak in the world rising to 27,765 feet (8,463 meters). This beautiful and impressive massive is situated just 14 miles east of Everest in the Khumbu region. Its size alone is impressive, but its perfect pyramid structure with four sharp ridges makes this mountain all the more spectacular. Makalu is actually a double peak. The subsidiary peak rising just north of the main summit connected by a saddle is called Chomolonzo (25,650 ft.) It is interesting to note that the summit ridge is the demarcation point indicating the border between Nepal on the Southern side and Tibet to the North.

The name of the mountain was probably taken from the Sanskrit word Maha-Kala, which means Big Black and is a by-name of Shiva - one of the most important gods of Hinduism. Shiva is sometimes an evil, cruel destroyer but at other times he tends to be gentle and kind-hearted. The mountain has another name in the local dialect - Kumba karna, which means The Giant.

Mount Makalu is a tourist destination for several foreign tourists. Mount Makalu is important tourism product of sankhuwasabha district.

5.1.3 Arun Vally

Arun valley is popularly known as lowest valley in the world. It is 457 meters from the sea level. There is a domestic airport. Now one government Airline Nepal Airlines and the two private airlines - Seeta Air Lines and Agni Airlines - have their daily

flights from Kathmandu to Tumlingtar and from tumlingtar to Kathmandu. In the Tumlingtar there are a number of hotels and lodges which have good facilities and offer fresh food and drinks.

5.1.4 Makalu Base Camp Trek

The Makalu Base camp trek is a true adventure with scenery so beautiful that it will never tire the tourist. The trek starts with a flight to Tumlingtar and heads up the Arun River valley to Sedua and Num, then crossing Shipton La Pass (4210 m) into the upper Barun river valley for a close look at Makalu and Chamlang Himal.

This route known as the Makalu Base camp trek, is by far the most commonly used among trekking and expedition group in the area. It takes approximately 22-25 days round trip from Kathmandu assuming the group flies one way and drives the other. Most groups trek up and back on the same trail, via Tumlangtar and Num-seduwa-Tashigoan.

5.1.5 Arun River

The Arun River is a river that flows through Nepal, Tibet and China, becoming a tributary of the Ganges. It is one of the principal tributaries of the Kosi River, the Arun River is the main water source of the Koshi River, the principal source of water for the Koshi River Basin. The Arun River demarcates the ancient boundary of Khambuwan and Limbuwan regions. In Nepal, the Kosi lies to the south of Kanchenjunga and has seven major tributaries: Sun Kosi, Tama Kosi, Dudh Kosi, Indravati, Likhu, Arun and Tamore. It has an average waterflow of 2564 cubic metres per second

5.1.6 Khemblung

Khempalung is located in the Yafu VDC ward no 5. The cave is long and it is estimated that it takes one hour to cross the cave. The water flows in the cave is attractive. It takes two days from Khandbari on foot. Many tourist from different district of Nepal and also foreign tourist visit this cave every year specially in *Janipurnima* .

5.1.7 SabhaPokhari

Sabhapokhari is one of the religious and tourist sites with charming atmosphere of the district located in Sabha Pokari VDC. It is believed that the place is a meeting place of Pandab in the ancient period. The place has beautiful lake and landscape. The district road construction Khandbari -Barabise - Manrbhangyang, - Sabha Pokhari and Basantapur - Gopha Pokhari - Manebhangyang - Jalaja Sabha Pokhari will connect this place. The District is willing to have master for the development of the place. Sabha Pokhari Village committee has master plan to operate cable-car service from Barabise to Sabhapokhari. Even though weak infrastructure renders some places hard to reach. Efforts are being made on district level to develop and promote such popular sites. Pilgrimage sites of Nepal like Sabha Pokhari make popular trekking destinations. Tours to this place are encouraged for novelty they provide in terms of nature and culture.

5.1.8 Shivadhara

Shiva Dhara is one of the most famous pilgrimage site situated in Makalu VDC ward no 5 of Sankhuwasabah Distinct of eastern Nepal. It is named Shivadhara, the sacred natural tap. Every year, on the full moon of August, a big fair takes place there. Many pilgrims from different places trek to the sacred site to have a sacred bath. The site is in high altitude so most of the time is covered with snow for about 8-9 months of the year. So no people go there on the other times.

According to ancient tales, this was the place where Lord Shiva and Parbati played and travelled. They used to have a bath at the tap. So people have faith if we have a bath in the tap we can be free from a kind of sin in our life.

The tap falls from about 300 meters above from hard rocks. The pilgrimage is surprised to see the tap falling. There is a big den where the tap falls. The place can hold about 500-600 people. There is a small temple. In the evening the people go to put up in which is at the bottom of the Shiba Dhara. The place lies on the bank of the Barun River.

The pilgrims take rest at the cow shed. In the next morning they have a bath in the Barun river and without having anything and without wearing shoes, they walk for

about two hours. Although the road is difficult one can reach there easily if she /he remembers the name of the god.

There is about 10 – 25 meters area on where the tap falls by moving and wets the pilgrim itself. It is strange to know it discriminates the pilgrims who are sinful and who are religious. It is believed that it does not wet the sinful whether he/she stays there for the whole day.

The people who get there feel as if they have reached the heaven and return with a sacred heart.

Since the place is very cold, visitors will have to wear warm clothes. But if the tap wets you, do not worry. You will be dry within 15 minutes. How strange it is.

Parbati Den:-

After we have a bath at the Shiva Dhara tap we have to worship the temple. Visitors have to cross a small hill and get the Parbati Den.

The den has been covered with pine trees. After you enter the Den, you will see the idol of Shiva and Parbati. You will have to go one way and return from another way.

Around the pilgrimage site visitors can see notes of 1000, 500 and 100 and other lots of coins scattered everywhere. Nobody takes the money from there.

5.1.9 Trekking Route

There are so many trekking routes in Sankhuwasabha district which are the major tourist destination of Nepal.

5.1.9.1 Khamblung Trekking Route

Tumlingtar- Chirkhuwa- Bumlingtar- Tamku- Nagitar- Chitre- Gontala- Khemblung- Arun River- Seduwa- Tasigaon- Makalu BC – Num- Tumlingtar.

5.1.9.2 Bhojpur-Dingla/Salpa Pass area

Tumlingtar or Bumlingtar on return from Makalu BC- Chirkhuwa- Salpa Pass- Chheskam- Bung- Lukla.

Tumlingtar- Chirkhuwa- Salpa Pass- Panch pokhari- Naulek Kharka- Ding Kharka- Mera Peak- Lukla

5.1.9.3 Chainpur –Gufa Pokhari

Tumlingtar 6hr Chainpur 1.5 hr Pokhari 4hr Nundhaki 4 hr Milke Danda 4hr Goru Jure 4hr Jaljale 2 hr Gupha Pokhari 4 hr Chauki 5 hr Basantapur. Total of 5 days trekking route.

5.1.9.4 Milke Danda-Jaljale Himal

Chainpur- Milke Danda- Goru Jure- Jaljale Himal- Topke Gola – Mewakhola-dobhan- Taplejung

5.1.9.5 Kanchanjunga Trek

Basantpur- Gupha Pokhari- Dobhan- Gunsas- Pangpema- Lapsang La-Yamphudin- Gopetar- Phidim- Ilam to Biratnager.

The Kanchanjunga area is visited by more trekkers and operated by more trekking agents than the Arun Basin/ Milke Danda treks. Despite its recent opening, it has quickly gained popularity as an unexplored region yet with greater accessibility for rescue and availability for rescue of supplies than the Dolpo region.

5.1.10 Other Tourism Components

Besides the above tourism components of tourism of Sankhuwasabha the following components are also equally important for tourism development.

5.1.10.1 Rafting, Fishing, Swimming

The Arun and Tamor River are not well used by rafters, largely because of limited access. A few companies run 3 day trips from Tumlingtar to Chaitra. Upstream of Tumlingtar the Arun has wilder waters but rafts are heavy to carry, requiring three porters each. The first day out of Tumlingtar, the water is calm but once the Mongmaya khola joins the Arun, there are good rapids. From Chaitra, rafting groups drive two to three hours to Dharan or all the way Biratnager fully to Kathmandu. Now

it is easy to develop the rafting activities in Arun River because of road access from Dharan to Tumlingtar.

Fishing is not developed as a tourist sport but has some potential. A few tourist fish on the Arun, Sabha and Hinwan kholas, assisted by local fishman guides. Local fish at Num as well. Fish reportedly in Arun River includes: asala, kotle, kabre, tite, torak, Asala is best testing: kotle is largest. Fishing is best in August-October. The locals use bamboo poles with *chipha* bait.

There are so many places appropriate for swimming in Arun, Sabha khola, Malta khola, Sisuwa khola. It is another tourist activitie which give more pleasure to tourist.

5.1.10.2 Village Charter

The architecture and village character of east Nepal is of particular interest to visitors. Chainpur is most charming hill-towns in Nepal. White-wasted building with wrong iron or carved wooden railings face wide, neat flagstone walkways, giving a new Orleans of French feel; flowers are profuse and orange trees add color to the scene. The Friday hatt bazaar is a regional and tourist attraction. the brass industy is famous and unique in Nepal. Visitors can watch the brass workers making wax moldes on a lathe and see the mud cased molds drying in the sun. then see the finished products stacked in numerous shops.

Pangma, between Khandbari and Chichhila is a small village with two distinctive styles of house constriction; elevated homes of red mud built on bamboo stilts with open decks of bamboo slates where vegetables and clay pots dry in the sun, and traditional two-tone white and ochre mud. Thatched roof house as seen in central Nepal.

5.1.10.3 Hat Bazzar

Haat bazzar or weekly market days are unique to east Nepal and provide an excellent opportunity for tourist to see different peoples of various dress, facial features and

customs. Some treks are planned specially around the weekly bazaar in villages. Here is the schedule for the largest market days.

Friday: Chainpur, Tumlingtar, Below Tashigoan

Saturday: Khandbari, Dingla

Monday: Barbise

Thursdays: at Palwa Khola , below Nundhaki

5.1.10.4 Temple, Scared place, Caves & Lakes

Khemblung is one of Nepal's best known beyuls , scared hidden valleys noted as places of Shangri-la-like in ancient Buddhist texts. There are 'power places' known to local Sherpas around khembalung; one is the cave where the results of magical feats performed by padmasambhava are supposedly visible. Pilgrims come here for deditation, shoch has heightend feeects because of the supreme sacredness of the spot. also the water here is said to have purifying powers and the 'white' clay at the mouth of he cave is considered potent medicime. The Sherpa name of Makalu is 'surarakya' protector deity of khembalung .

Dingla has temple for Ramchandra, kaiolash and Pashupatinath and a mela in October and march-april for Ram-Naomi. In tumlingtar there is a famous Manakamana temple shere Ekadasi festival is celebrated.

There are several temples in or nearby chainpur; siddhakali is one hour away from the main trail to Nundhaki. There are also several caves near Chainpur; waleswor is the largest, located one hour to the south of the main bazaar groud.

Shiba temples of Baneshwor is also popular in Chainpur. That historical temple was established by *Aasa khatri* on 1877 BS . He also made a beautiful pond near the temple in *Baneshwor Danda* of chainpur. The sibha temple has its own *Guthi* provided by government of Nepal on 1877 BS.

From Chainpur , trials lead to Sadha-pokhari , a scared lake high in the Jaljale Himal. During Janipurnima Festival in August. Thousands of pilgrims go to sabhapokhari

from chainpur, khandbari and Gufa Pokhari, reaching there in 3 days and around journey. At the same time, pilgrims visit panch pokhari and Banduk pokhari where people say that limestone on the middle of the lake gets heated by the sun and explodes like a gun. Although some of the local people and even leaders would like to develop the trails to sabha and panch pokhari for tourists, it appears to be quite rough and thus would not be as popular as pilgrimage lakes such as Gosainkunda. In September-october, chainpur observes a two day Newari mela in which people dress in costumes.

Nundhake lies along the historic trade route connection Kathmandu with Darjeeling and Sikkim. There are several sacred and historic spots here. Between pokhari and Nundhaki, a papal terr and stone are worshipped as a Devi (goddess). In Nundhaki, there is a water source for seven streams that is reportedly some 100 years old. Many yogis and Sadhus gather here for Baluchaturdasi festival. A 500-1000 year old vertical stone marks where Tibetans once tied their horses during Tibet-nepal wars. Above the town along the main trail, there are numerous old stone Chhortens some with inscriptions, and several cemeteries with upright stone gravestones.

Gufa Pokhari was once a Limbu graveyard and a sacred place associated with the lake and meditation cave on nearby Mencham Danda. People still consider the lake sacred as it has no visible source. During Janaipurnnima, when people go on pilgrimage to Sabhapokhari, they stop in Gufapokhari to do rituals and the towns people organize a mela.

5.1.10.5 Festivals

Festivals which are celebrated publicly are much enjoyed by tourists and if dates are known in advance can be a center-piece in the itinerary. These festivals were noted in the field work.

Magh Sangranti: Celebrated in the Barun valley

Baisaki Danda : Celebrated at Pangma Danda, with cazar, games etc, on the full moon.

Desain and Tihar: Desian and Tihar are the greatest festivals of Hindus and also the national festival of Nepal. These festivals are celebrated all over the Nepal.

Yawe : Celebrated by sherpas 15 days after Tihar, with dance , dramas and Deusi

Losar: Celebrated in Sherpa communities

Chandi Purnima Mala :- Chandi dance is popular in Rai community in eastern part of Nepal . this festival is celebrated from *Baisakh Purnima to tirodashi* .There days mela is organized in every year. Verities of face of people of different communities can be observed in the mela. It is the best platform or opportunities to love each other and to marry.

5.1.11 Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale Rhododendron Conservation Area

The Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale area, which was marked out as a potential Community Conservation Area (CCA) for its rich biodiversity, especially rhododendron diversity, is situated at the confluence of three districts - Tehrathum, Sankhuwasabha and Taplejung - in the eastern hilly region of Nepal. It comprises an area of 558 sq. km. in 23 Village Development Committees (VDCs)

TMJ provides a natural niche for dozens of rhododendron species-mixed to pure stands of over 28 species.

TMJ area has been identified as an area that hosts globally significant biodiversity, especially the greatest rhododendron occurrences in Nepal. Since it lies between two conservation areas in the east of Nepal, it contains elements of and serves an important corridor function for the most biodiversity rich area of Nepal (Part of the Indo-Malayan hotspot). It is an area that hosts several species of rare and endemic flora and fauna.

There are abundant numbers of such attraction. Which start from even below the Tinjure ridge. The first one is Pathivara temple laying parallel to Tinjure, the reflection of the main temple of Taplejung followed by, Rakne Danda at Chauki and an ancient cave called Gupha at Guphapokhari. The latter is associated with ancient legend of God Mahadev. Similarly Saba Pokhari situated at 4300 metter is one of the major pilgrim sites at high altitude. These attractions could overwhelmingly apple Nepalese as well as foreign pilgrimage.

Internationally visitors who normally seek natural and cultural environment from those they are accustomed with, could find sufficient incentives for justifying their visits and their investments. Starting from Dharan with a height of about 500 masl, and Bhedetar hill about 1400 masl, which disappearing and reappearing extends as far as Jaljale and Lumba Sumba Himal crossing through intermittent human settlements such as Chauki and Gupha before giving way to Tibet, is the home to multi-cultural Nepalese traditional society and habitat of immense biological diversity including the largest natural rhododendron forest having probably the highest rhododendron species diversity found in the world within a very small area.

The world grade rhododendron forest has been the center of attraction for many people since the opening of the country for tourism and botanical research. Rene de Milleville (1994), a French journalist has well appreciated the blooming rhododendron another major tourist attraction in TMJ."Finally, it must not be forgotten that if any tourist in any country of the world wants to admire beautiful blooming rhododendron forests, he has to come to Nepal, the only country of the world able to fulfill his dream."

5.2 Prospects of Tourism in TMJ & Sabhapokhari

Shankhuwasabha having sufficient tourism development, TMJ being close from the tourist area. Several tourists visit Sankhuwasabha every year for different purposes. TMJ can be the best tourism destination for those tourists who visit Sankhuwasabha. Many tourists visit Arun valley, Makalu Barun National Park and Mount Makalu every year. TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is attached with Makalu Barun National Park and KCA.

5.2.1 Rhododendron Forest

Rhododendron is the national flower of Nepal. TMJ area is the home place for 28 species of rhododendrons. TMJ area is famous for rhododendron viewing areas in Nepal. Some species found in TMJ area are described here. *arboretum*, *barbatum*, *camelliformum*, *campanulatum*, *ciliatum*, *cinnabarium*, *dalahouside*, *grande*, *griffithianum*, *hodgsonii*, *pendulum*, *thomosnii*, *virgatum*, *wightii* are the major species found in TMJ area.

The most extensive and beautiful rhododendron forest of Nepal is to be found on Milke Danda, between 2600 and 3000 m, a 25 km-long ridge in eastern Nepal. Trekking in April from Dhorpani, 2650 m to Gupha pokhari, 2850m, one walks for three days among blooming *R. Arboreum*. In the last days of April and the beginning of May the mixed forest area around Milke Bhangyang and the southern slope of Gupah Pokhari comes alive with rhododendrons. Further down, up to 2400m, but slightly away from the main trail, the *R. arboreum-barabatum-cinnabarinum-dalhousei-complanulatum-griffithianum-hodsonii-thomsonii* and *virgatum* can be seen blooming together. Going up to Ward Topke Gola in May, between 3000 and 4000m, nearly ten other species are found.

Milke Danda is truly a natural world heritage site. If preserved it could provide Nepal with the only rhododendron national park of the world, neighbouring countries have searched in vain for a similar place to establish their own rhododendron park but nothing has been done towards protecting this natural forest to the north of Milke Danda. The natural forest to the north of Milke Danda up to Kanchanjunga is protected as a national park and a reserve. But this area has never been in danger since there are neither any towns nor motorable roads here and entry of trekkers is strictly controlled. Milke Danda itself was quite untouched until 1989 but as the roadheads from Dharan extended up to its fringes at Basantapur, the main trail passing through it began to see more and more porter traffic. Near water sources trees were found chopped down for use as firewood and with a commercial road now following the trail more trees have been felled.

Visiting time: April to the south of Milke Bhangyang and Gupahpokhari, May to the north of it.

5.2.2 Biodiversity

TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is rich in biodiversity. Several varieties of plants, animals, birds, medicinal plants, wildlife were found in this small area. Arun valley is known as the richest area in biodiversity in the world for the relatively small

geographical area of Nepal. It has one of the richest natural animal reserves of the world, which includes about 10 percent of the known birds of the world.

Diverse avifauna of Nepal with some 850 species of which about 82 percent breed locally indicates the importance of bird study in Nepal. Arun Valley often referred to as ornithologist's paradise has over 440 species of birds. There are around 20 species whose range is confined to the east (Koirella, 2002).

5.2.2.1 Major Tree Species Found in TMJ Region

Chutro, Bhote Katus, Angari, Mallido, Kandeliso, Angari, Shillinge, Kamale, Flata, Khasru, Laliguras, Guras, Kholme, Kharane, Dhyangre Sallo, Asare, Bakalpane, Katus, Chilaune, etc. (Koirella, 2002).

5.2.2.2 Major Shrub Species Found in TMJ Region:

Malingo, Musakane, Betkanda, Lokta, Bakhreghas, Chillikath etc. (Koirella, 2002).

5.2.2.3 Major Medicinal Herbs of Economic Importance Found in TMJ Region

Lalgedi, Bojho, Bakhre Ghas, Gandhe jhar, Pashdnbed, Bhang, Golkakri, Lampate Jhar, Allo, Seto phusre Lasara, Bhuichampa, Asareful, Sunthangne, Kalimunte, Lasunpate, Jaringo, White gential, Padamchal, Seemsag, Halhale sag, Thornyraspberry. Mulapate, Rato gujargano, chiraito, indrani, Hadchur, Bhedekuro, chingfing are major herbs found in TMJ region which has medicinal values (Koirella, 2002). Local people are using these medicinal plants for the treatment of different diseases.

5.2.2.4 Major Birds found in TMJ Region

TMJ region is rich in bird diversity. Madan Koirella had recorded 97 bird species of 30 families in his study, April 2002. The Tinjure-Milke forest, a corridor between lowland forest of Tamor region and upland forest of Makalu-Barun and Kanchenjunga region and also a popular trekking route is rich in bird diversity, as majority of the bird species are common in relative abundance, the site draws attraction of the bird watchers or those interested in the study of bird diversity. occurrence of

Laughing Thrush, Babbler, Minla, Yuhina, Blackbird, Pheasant, Whistling Thrush, fork tail, Rivrchat, Niltava, Flycatcher, Magpie, Tree Pie, Crow, Cuckoo, Owl, Wood Pecker, Tit and Bulbul belong to abundance class 'common' and to Vulture , Bush Robin, And Jay 'Occasionla' indicate the site is still an Ornithologists paradise, as remarked by Ali(1977) decade ago.

5.2.2.5 Mammals found in TMJ Region

TMJ forest despite its narrow stripe shows a high diversity of mammalian wildlife, as it serves as habitat corridor between Makalu Barun Conservation area towards the west, Kanchanjunga conservation area. The area being out of the prtotected area and serving as habitat for relatively larger mammalian fauna especially carnivores such as Bengal Tiger, Clouded Leopard and Gray Wolf the area becomes considerably important for habitat conservation.

5.2.3 Climatic Diversity

TMJ region covers from highland to lowland area so different kinds climate can be enjoyed in this area. The climate can be divided into three distinct seasons – cold winter from November To March with an average maximum temperature of 17 degree centigrade and a minimum of -2 degree centigrade, monsoonic rainy season extending from may to October with an average maximum temprateur of 25 degree centigrade and a minimum of 10 degree centigrade, and a short summer during April and May with an average maximum of 24 degree centigrade and a mimimum of 8 degree centigrade (Koirella, 2002).

5.2.4 Trekking Route

There are several famous trekking routes in TMJ area. Many tourist and trekkers visit that area for trekking. Some of important and famous trekking route are listed below.

- 1) Gufa-Pokari--- Sirjung--- Morhang---- Jirikhimti---- Basantapur (around 5 days)
cultural tour
- 2) GufaPokhari ----Samdip---- Myanglung---- basantapur (around 5 days)
- 3) Gufa Pokhari---Gorge----Lali--- Milke (3 days)
- 4) Gufapokhari----Barahabuse----- Milke (5days)

- 5) Tumlingtar----Thanglabu---- Dobhan--- GufaPokhari (3days)
- 6) Gufa Pokhari---- Maodin (3days)
- 7) Mangalbare---Maodin (4 days)
- 8) Mangalbare ----Morhang (2 days)
- 9) Basantapur----Gufa Pokhari----- Taplejung (5 days)
- 10) Tumlingtar 6 hr Chainpur 6 hr Nundhaki 4.5 hr Gufapokhari 2 days
Sabhapokhari

It takes ten days.

5.2.5 Ponds & Lakes

TMJ area is rich in natural lakes and ponds. Beautiful natural scene can be observed in that area. Sabhapokhari is important ponds of the area. The name of sankhuwasabha was generated from the name of sabha khola and sankhuwa khola. sabhapokhari is the source of sabha khola(river). It has historical importance. Many tourist visit that ponds During *Janaipurnima* (A Hindu Festival) Several tourist from different district of Nepal and also from different country visits that pokhari every year. there are around 40 different ponds in TMJ area. some of them are; *Panchpokhari, Tin Pokhari, Lam Pokhari, Bhut Pokhari, Gufa Pokhari, Rato pokhari, Jor Pokhari, Banduk Pokhari etc.*

5.2.6 Water Falls

Local people believe that there is Asia's largest water falls , which rolls water as it falls through. it needs further investigation before including it in the trekking package. It can be a good tourism product.

5.2.7 Grazing, Pasture Land

TMJ area is rich in grazing and pasture land in which yak and sheep are cultivated by local people. Milk, Churpi, Ghee and wool were produced and that helped for improving income standard of local people. In chauki, there is a large but sloppy open space at the top of a hill near the settlement which could be further studied for developing it into a golf course. This golf course would be a most enjoyable and feasible sport once the motorable road reaches chauki. Motorable road is expending

slowly we can hope that local people with the help of government and non-governmental organization will develop this area as a gulf course area.

5.2.8 Rocky Slopes

There were so many rocky slopes in the TMJ area and trekking route in which kayaking activities can be implemented. There is a big rocky slopes in one hour walks from Deurali in which rock climbing activities can be developed. There are some other rocky slopes on the way. Mencham danda is other potential hill to develop rock climbing.

5.2.9 Famous Caves

Mahadev Gufa believed to be a deep cave, but never explored, could be another added attraction for tourism development. Nearby the cave there were thousands of stones spread over sides of the trail named Bhimsen Dhunga, which carries historical importance. There was a famous cave near by Mencham Danda. Many people visited this cave every year. This cave has a historical importance.

5.2.10 Temples, Religiously Important Place

Siddhakali Temple is historical temple of sankhuwasabha district. Many people of different district visit that temple every year. Manakamna temple is famous in Nepal which is situated in riverside of Arun river near Tumlingtar. Several tourist visited that temple every year. Gufa pokhari is itself a religiously important ponds in which several tourist visits that ponds every year. Sabhapokhari is itself a historical place where several pilgrimage tourist visit every year. It is difficult to say how many tourist visited that area because there was no any official record. Sabhapokhari pond is main sources of sabha khola. There were some monasteries, monuments, historical, archaeological of cultural sites, on pilgrimage, locally best known pathivara temple is located at Ratnaule which could attract Hindus. There was a Gufa temple near Gufa pokhari.

5.2.11 Culture

There was heterogeneous types of population composition in this area so different culture of different ethnic groups were observed in the area. Culture of Rai, Gurung, Sherpa, Bhote, are itself a tourism product. Flock music of the ethnic group is popular in all over the Nepal. Dressing habit, food items of locals can be improved and this can be a unique tourism product.

5.3 Problems of Tourism Development in TMJ & Sabhapokhari Area .

5.3.1 Introduction

As a new tourist destination, TMJ and sabhapokhari area possesses in finite challenges and problems to promote ecotourism. Antagonistic relation exists between the problems of destination and tourist visit. The length of stay of tourists can be increased by providing modern and recreational facilities. The major challenge for promoting ecotourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is how to increase the number of tourist especially international tourists and length of their stay. Similarly, advertisement and publicity, peace and security, accommodation facilities and effective communication facilities etc are lacking.

I) Transportation and Communication

Transportation is a vital tourist infrastructure until and unless availability of transportation facilities, no tourist can reach the destination. The road from Dharan to Basantapur is in good condition but from Basantapur to sabhapokhari is not in good condition.

Communication is equally important to develop the tourist business. Only few telephone are available in Basantapur but very few communication facilities were available in Gufa pokhari, Chauki. Telephone , Internet, fax services are lacking in the trekking route. There was no alternative way of communication after Guphapokhari.

II) Drinking Water

Drinking water is basic need. Problem of drinking water is the root cause that arises so many problems in a place. No drinking water facilities are available in the trekking route. But local water sources fulfill the drinking water requirement of visitors.

Many lakes and ponds are seen in the TMJ area from which drinking water can be provided to the local settlement.

III) Trained Manpower

Tourists were not getting proper information about the TMJ and Sabhapokhari are due to lacking trained guide and naturalists who can explain in detail about rhododendron, herbs, vegetation, birds available, bio-diversity and wild animals in jungle, mystery of traditional, cultural importance of TMJ and Sabhapokhari .Service and facilities were not providing in efficiently by the hotel operators due to lack of trained manpower in the hotel. No tourist guide was available in the area so tourist will be confused.

IV) Health and Sanitation Problem

Health and Sanitation Problem Solid waste management and dumping site belonging is most important problem in Basantapur, Gufapokhari, and trekking route. Lacking proper health care centers, clinical and medical facilities. No health post and medical clinics are available in the area. Only small clinics are in Basantapur but no clinics are available in Gufa Pokhari and above. The visitors and trekkers have to manage their health problem themselves.

V) Recreational Facilities

Colorful feast and festivals, rites and ritual, swimming pool, picnic and sport ground, paragliding, bird watching and so on may be developed as the recreational products for tourists in TMJ and sabhapokhari area but they are lacking in the destination. There were some barrel land where ,gulf course can be developed. A view tower can be established to watch rising sun and natural beauties of TMJ are but it has not been established till now. There are so many rocky slopes where kayaking , and rock climbing activities can be introduced but it has not been established till now because of lacking investment and lack of awareness about the importance of this activities on local people.

VI) Seasonal Fluctuation of Tourist Arrival

Fluctuation of tourist arrival in peak and off seasons is a crucial problem of hotel owners in TMJ and sabhapokhari. It is discouraging them to increase investment due to seasonal industry several number of man power remains idle in off-season.

VII) Tourist Information Centre and Publicity

There was not even a tourist information centre in Basantapur, Gufa Pokhari, chhauki and the trekking route. Tourists visiting TMJ and sabhapokhari area were suffering from lack of information and proper guidance. Similarly there was no record of tourist entry and out, their stay, income generation from tourists etc. since 2005. Therefore it was urgent to establish tourist information center in Basantapur, Gufapokhari, and also in Tumlingtar to develop and promote the destination. Publicity and advertisement of TMJ and sabhapokhari are is also lacking . National and International level publicity and advertisement of *Tinjure* ,*Milke* , *Jaljale* and *sabhapokhari* is most essential now.

VIII) Good Quality Hotels

Even though hotels and lodges exist in Basantapur their quality of food and beverage services and management is poor. Neat and clean environment, well managed hotel activities, trained staffs, hygienic and tasty foods beverages, sufficient number of rooms and beds and well hospitality of staffs in hotel etc enhance good quality of hotels, but these mentioned above are lacking in some extent in TMJ and sabhapokhari ara.

IX) Travel Trekking Agencies

Travel and trekking Agencies were not operating in TMJ area. The way has still not be developed to connect TMJ and Sabhapokhari area from major hob centers e.g. Kathmendu, Biratnager, Dhankuta and Dharan. Therefore, to increase tourist movement in TMJ and Sabhapokhari, travel and trekking agencies have to be established soon.

X) Peace and Security

Nepal is now in peace process. Due to lack of political instability in Nepal, most of the days are closed. Due to Nepal–banda and strike organized by different political parties, tourism industry of Nepal is seriously injured. The political situation of Nepal is not stable now. Insecurity of life and property of visitors and violence in a tourist destination stop the tourist movement. Due to the political instability in country, peace and security in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is Lacking, political crisis is the major obstacle or problem to develop and remote tourism development in Tinjure, Milke, Jaljale and sabhapokhari area.

XI) Marketing

The supply side of tourist products and services is much stronger than the demand side of tourist products and services in TMJ and Sabhapokhari region. Socio cultural and natural products await the visitors to be consumed. Unfortunately, such paramount assets or products have not consumed by the visitors as much as expected due to lack of marketing such products in national and international level.

In addition, illiteracy, backwardness, poverty and deprivation of local people, lacking in benefit sharing on the basis of equality, coordination among tourist entrepreneurs, social problems on the basis of a cost system, rich and poor, ecological problem (landslide, deforestation erosion, garbage disposal) etc hamper severely in the process of ecotourism development and promotion in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari region.

XII) Lack of Fuel for Cooking

Fuel for cooking presently in the trekking route is another major constraint to tourism growth. There were no ready alternative fuel sources available to local. kerosene is used by some trekking group but is too costly for the majority of residents. Per liter kerosene cost for the local people was Rs. 100. It must be carried several days and is not available on a steady basis. Where electricity is supplied to communities, it is at insufficient levels to cook with. Whereas the hydroelectric potential is great,

construction and transmission costs have deterred the development. The potential for wind and solar energy has not been fully researched.

XIII) Lack of Refuse Disposal Infrastructure

There were not waste disposal infrastructures at all levels. Even if trekking staffs and local porters carried out trash there was no system for receipt of refuse at road heads, no transport vehicles and no proper dump at the other end of the road.

XIV) Investment and Operational Costs

Virtually all of the above recommendation mitigation measures require capital investment. Local peoples by and large lack of capital to invest in lodges, latrines or kerosene depots, to acquire land for campsites or trails, to set up handicraft and food cottage industry projects etc nor is there adequate incentive for private investors at current levels of tourism. At present , there is no outside funding sources earmarked for implementation of these policies and programs.

Investment in infrastructure alone will not bring tourists; a growth in tourism requires promotion both within Nepal among trekking agents as well as abroad among the adventure travel agents. Brouchers, maps, guide books, slides shows must complements visitors own of mouth marketing.

XV) Lack of Skilled and Trained Manpower

Traditional construction and technical skills have sufficed with historic demands on natural resources and basic infrastructures. Introduction of conservation of techniques such as low fuel using stoves and development of alternative energy sources will require technical training. Subsistence farmers lack experience in organizing and managing cottage industries such as handicraft and food production and sales. Local designs may need to be modified to stimulate tourist interest. Some production such as paper processing, wool dyeing, pottery baking, etc. requires a fuel source, compiling demands for energy. Training and manufacturing centers will also be needed.

XVI) Strike, Nepal Banda

Due to regular strike and Nepal-Banda in all over the Nepal tourist are facing trouble on their journey. Tourist have limited time schedule but due to Nepal Banda and strike they could not reach into their destination and they also get negative message from Nepal .it is not positive sign for tourism industry in Nepal .I was stopped for a week in Itahari due to strike when I was visiting to the TMJ area for this research.

CHAPTER 6

Data Presentation and Analysis

6.1 Introduction

In this chapter the collected data are analyzed for fulfillment of the objectives of the study. Informations available from the primary as well as secondary source are presented and analyzed. Generally, the information on the number of tourist arrivals in Nepal and TMJ area, purpose of visit, seasonal distribution of tourist arrivals by major continents, means of transportation used by tourists, length of their stay, expenditure pattern, income variation, numbers and investment pattern of the hotels, lodges and paying guest houses, perception of local people, hotels and lodge owners and tourists towards the development and promotion of ecotourism as well as socio economic and environmental impacts of tourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari are analyzed in this chapter.

The analysis and interpretation is mainly based on questionnaire collected from local people, tourists, key informants & hotel owners.

6.2 Age and Sex Structure Respondent.

Different age and sex groups of respondents were found in Basantapur, Deurali, Chauki, Mangalbare and Guphapokhari. The following diagram depicts that most of the respondents were taken from economically active age group and from the side of male group

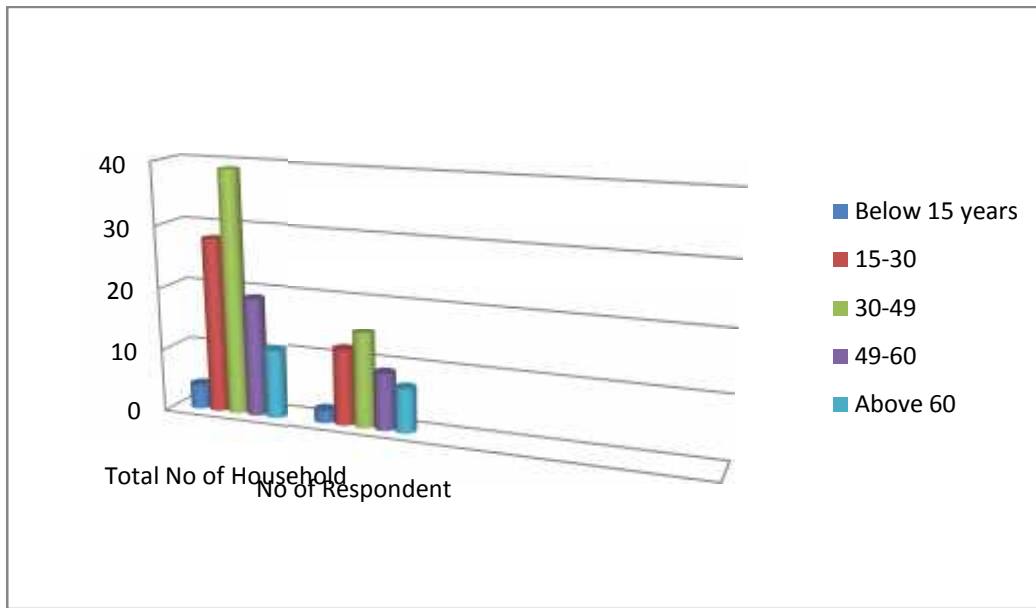
Table 6.1: Age Structure of the Respondents

Age group	Respondent Number	Percentage	No of family
Below 15 Years	2	4.44	4
15-30	12	27	28
30-49	15	33	39
49-60	9	20	19
Above 60	7	15.56	11
Total	45	100	101

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The above table 6.1 shows that the majority of the respondents and their family members were at the age group of 30-49. Forty five respondents were taken as sample from 101 family. Respondents were of different age group and from different family.

Figure 6.1: Age Class of Respondents



Source: Field Survey, 2009

6.3 Present Information about Tourist & Tourism

A total of 526705 tourist visited Nepal during 2007 representing an increase of 37.2 % over the previous year. Around eight lakh tourist visited Nepal by air .Although the largest number of tourist visited Nepal for recreational purposes 41.4% adventure tourist posted the highest average length of stay in the country. The average length of stay was recorded as 11.96 days. About 2000 tourists visit sankhuwasabha district every year. Though there are many more potential areas for tourism development number of tourist is not satisfactory.

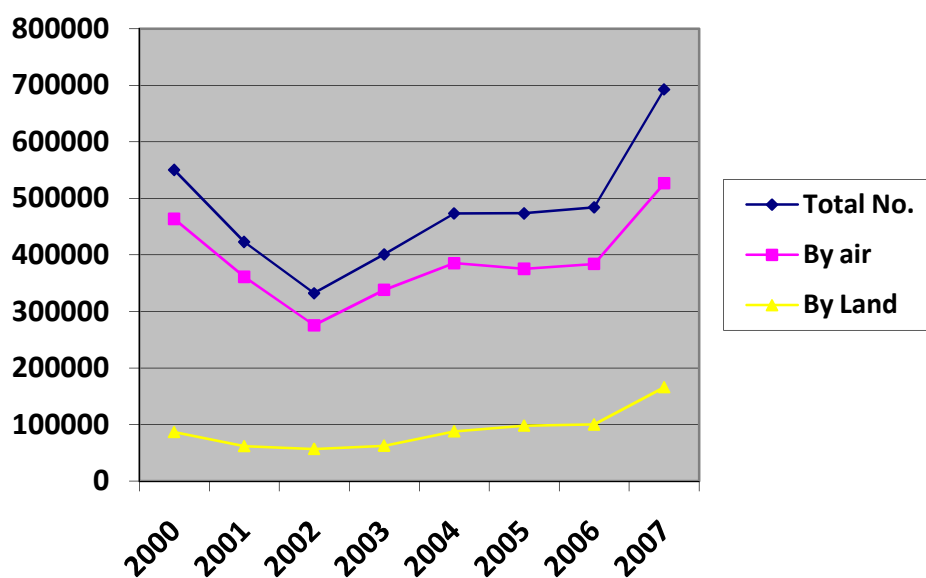
6.3.1 Tourist Arrivals in Nepal

Table 6.2: Tourist Arrivals in Nepal (2000-2007)

Year	Total Number	Growth Rate	By Air	By Land
2000	550378	7.504	463646	86732
2001	422960	5.846	361237	61723
2002	332276	4.458	275468	56808
2003	400823	5.472	338132	62691
2004	473259	6.236	385297	87962
2005	473450	6.075	375398	98052
2006	484033	6.213	383926	100107
2007	692697	8.524	526705	165992

Sources: NTB, 2007

Figure No: 6.2 Total Number of Tourists Arrival by Year



Sources: NTB, 2007

The growth rate of tourist arrival in Nepal is in increasing rate. 550378 tourist arrived in Nepal in the year 2000. Growth rate of tourist in the that year was 7.504

The table no 6.2 and figure no 6.2 shows the tourist visited in Nepal Since 2000 to 2008. Due to political crisis and insecurity the growth rate was slightly lower in the year 2001 to 2006 than 2007.

6.3.2 Tourist Arrival in Sankhuwasabha and TMJ Area

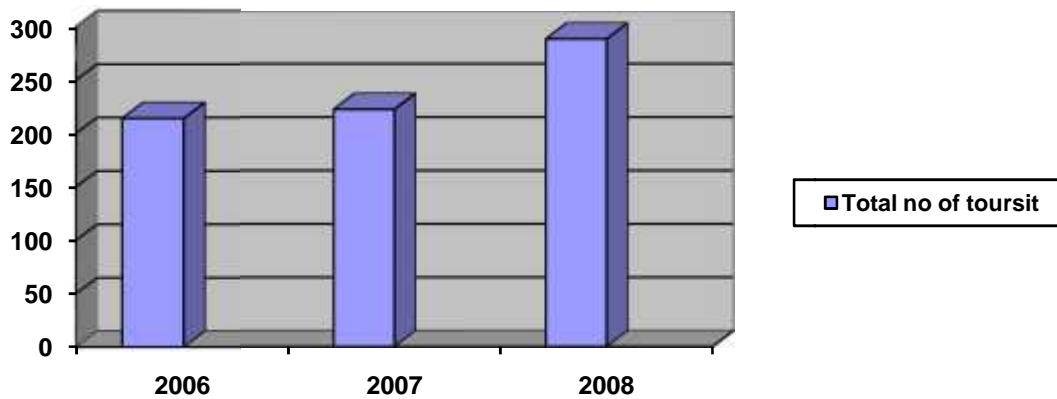
Many more tourist visits Sankhuwasabha for different purposes. some of them visits for trekking , some of them visits for research , some of them visits fro cilimbing mount Makalu, some other for religious purposes , khamblung, sabhapokhari, Manakamna temple , siddhakali temple are the important and famous in sankhueasabha for religious tourist. it is difficult to say how many domestic and foreign tourist visit sankhuvwasabha exactly in a year because there is no official records .Many tourist goes to TMJ area from different districts such as dhankuta, Tehrathum, Taplegunj, Panchthar etc. as regards the tourist visiting TMJ area, records of local police post of *Gufapokhari* and *Tumlingtar* are reviewed at the time of study and data collection. The record keeping is maintained properly. During meeting, the police authorities expressed their intention to have a complete record for the future. Local police authorities cooperate to give such record of tourist arrivals in sankhuwasabha and different tourist destination of sankhuwasabha district.

Table 6.3 : Tourist Arrival in Sankhuwasabha District

Year	Total No of Tourist	By Air	Foreign	Domestic
2006	214	214	214	N/A
2007	222	222	222	N/A
2008	288	288	288	N/A

Sources :- Local police post of Sankhuwasabha 2006 to 2008

Figure 6.3: Tourist Arrival in Sankhuwasabha District



Source :- Local Police post of Sankhuwasabha 2006 to 2008

Tourist arrivals from different country to sankhuwasabha are presented in above table no 6.3 and also in figure no 6.3. It is very difficult to say exact no of tourist arrived in sankhuwasabha district because some of the tourist come to the district from Bhojpur and Nepala Danda and also form Teplejung District. All police post are not keeping the updated record of tourist visited in different parts of the District. Above table and figure shows that the number of tourist is in increasing rate which is positive sign for tourism industry of sankhuwasabha district.

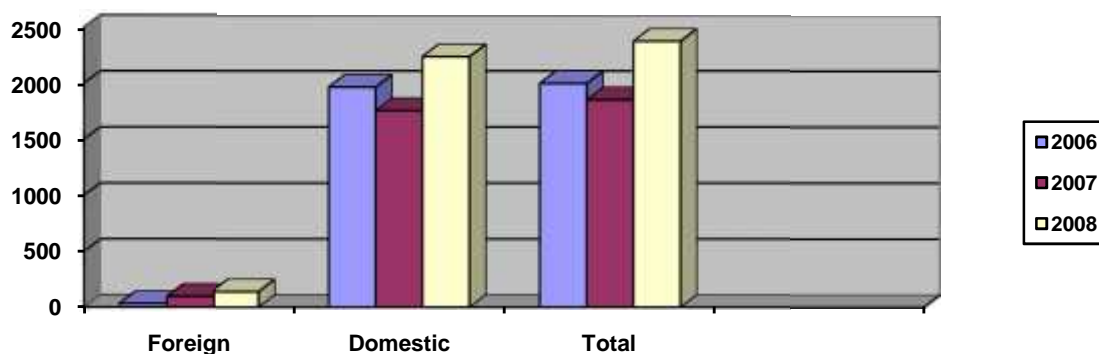
Figure no 6.3 shows that, 214 foreign tourist visited sankhuwasabha in 2006, 222 and 288 foreign tourist visited in the year 2007.

Table 6. 4: Tourist arrival in TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area

Year	Total no of tourist	Foreign	Domestic	By Air	By Land
2006	1997	32	1965	32	1965
2007	1851	96	1755	96	1755
2008	2374	138	2236	138	2236

Source : Local Police Post of Sankhuwasabha 2009

Figure 6.4: Tourist arrival in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area



Source :- Regional Police Post of Tumlingtar and Police Post of Gupahpokhari , Sankhuwasabha 2006 to 2008, 2009

The table no 6.4 and figure 6.4 shows the tourist arrivals pattern in Tinjure Milke and Jaljala area of sankhuwasabha district. 32 foreign tourists and 1965 domestic tourist visited the TMJ and sabhapokhari area in the year 2006. 96 and 138 foreign tourist visited the TMJ area in the year 2007 and 2008 respectively. The above figure shows the number of foreign tourist is in increasing rate. The above figure also shows that the number of domestic tourist is higher than foreign tourist which is positive sign for the development tourism industry.

Direct questions were asked to the local respondents of Basantapur, Panchpokhari, Chauki, Mangalbare and Gupahpokhari to identify their knowledge of total tourist visited in one year. 30% respondent replied 100 to 150 tourist visit this area every year, 45% replied 200 to 300 tourist visited the area, 25% respondent said above 300 foreign tourist visit this area every year.

It was difficult to get exact figure of tourist visited the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. There are different ways to go to TMJ area. Some tourists go to this area from Chainpur, some other from Nundhaki, some other from Basantapur and Taplejung also. Only the tourist visited from Basantapur to gupahpokhari were recorded in the police record in Gupahpokhari so it can not express the exact figure.

6.3.3 Tourist Arrival by the Nationality

Several tourists from different country and also from different district of Nepal visit this area every year. At the time of survey I found that more tourist svisited this place from USA, France and Japan. Some other tourists were from Poland, Switzerland, Germany, Canada, Belgium, Australia, United Kingdom, Holland, Newzealand, Sweden, India, China etc.

Tourist arrived in TMJ and sabha pokhari region by nationality is presented below in table no 6.4 and figure no 6.4.

Table 6. 5 : Tourist Visited by Nationality (2008).

SN	Name of Country	No of Tourist visited	Percentage
1	Canada	10	7.25%
2	UK	22	15.95%
3	Australia	15	10.87%
4	Denmark	10	7.24%
5	Japan	6	4.34%
6	Jermany	5	3.62%
7	Paris	12	8.69%
8	Spain	4	2.90%
9	USA	15	10.88%
10	Duch	10	7.24%
11	Brazil	2	1.45%
12	Sweden	5	3.62%
13	Swiss	6	4.35%
14	Other	16	11.59%
	Total	138	100%

Source:-Daily Tourist Record Book of Police Post of Guphapokhari 2006 to 2009

The table no 6.5 shows that foreign tourist form different country of the world visit the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area every year. The above figure shows the tourist arrived in TMJ and sabhapokhari area in the year 2008. the highest number of tourist arrived from UK and second highest form Australia and USA then France has third position.

Total 138 tourists visited the TMJ and sabhapokhari area in the year 2008. 10 from Canada, 22 from UK, 15, 10, 6, 5, 12, 4, 15, 10, 2, 5, 6, 16 from Australia, Denmark, Japan, Germany, France, Spain, USA, Dutch, Brazil, Sweden, Swiss and Other country respectively .

6.3.4 Tourist Arrivals by the Age & Sex

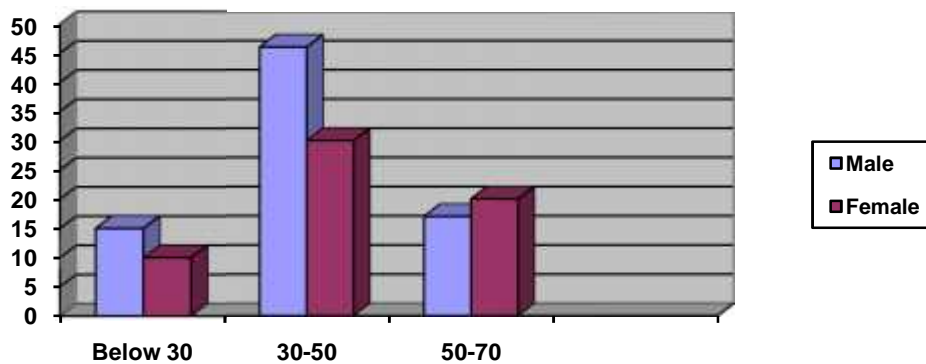
Tourist of different age group visited this area every year mostly during march to April and September to November. Some older and young male and female visits this area in *janipurnima* . Many more pilgrimage tourist from different district of Nepal visits this area in *Janipurnima*. This area is popular for rhododendron and biological diversity and also for Kanchangunja Conservation Area. This area is also rich for lakes, ponds and water falls . This area is real scientific laboratory for researcher and student of research so different age group tourist form different country visit this area every year. Tourist arrival in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area in the year 2008 were presented below in the table no 6.6 and figure no 6.6.

Table No. 6. 6: Tourist Arrivals by the Age and Sex (2008).

Sex	Below 30 year	30 – 50 year	50 – 70 year	Total
Male	15	46	17	78
Female	10	30	20	60
Total	25	76	37	138

Sources:-Daily Tourist Record Book of Police Post of Guphapokhari 2008, 2009

Figure 6.5 : Tourist Arrivals by the Age and Sex



Sources:-Daily Tourist Record book of Police Post of Guphapokhari 2008, 2009 .

The above data shows that 55% tourist are the age group of 30 to 50 year, 26.81% tourist of age group 50 to 70 years and 18.09% tourist are the age group of below 30 years . Table no 6.6 shows that 78 male which is 57% and 60 female which is 43% of the total tourist visited the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area in the year 2008. The percentage of male is greater than female tourist visited in the TMJ area.

6.3.5 Means of Transportation Used by Visitors/Tourists

Transportation is the essential components of tourism. We can't imagine tourism industry without transportation facilities in any area. The development of tourism industry was started after the development of different transportation facilities throughout the world. If the tourism destination is accessed by road and other means of transportation there is potentialities of tourism development so it is the most essential components of tourism industry. TMJ is one of the best trekking routes for both of the domestic and foreign tourist. This area is also popular for kanchanjunga trekking route. There are two different way to visit this area.

Travelling to sabhapokhari is fourteen days journey. Different mode of transportation are used to travel that area . Journey of TMJ and sabhapokhari is presented below in detail.

1st day of the journey

First day of journey starts from Kathmandu to Biratnager or Tumlingtar.

Kathmandu, Biratnagar and Tumlingtar are connected by air transportation as well as road. Several facilitated hotels and lodge were found in Biratnager and midmium level hotels and lodge in Tumlingtar. Tumligtar is lowest valley of the world and also rich in bird diversity. Bird watching and fishing can be additional tourism activities in Arun River nearby Tumlingtar.

2nd day of the journey

Second day of journey starts from Biratnager to Basantapur by bus or from Tumlingtar to Basantapur by local bus or on foot. Various beautiful scenes can be seen on the way. Dharan is a historically important place and heterogeneous settlement of Rai, Gurung, Tamang, Newar, Chhetri and other cast. Bhadatar is beautiful place of Dhankuta district from where beautiful scene of Dharan and other settlement can be seen. A view tower is there in charls point. Dhankuta Bazzar , Uttarpani, Hilla Bazar are another attractions for tourist. Basantapur is old and historical settlement which is entry point of TMJ and sabhapokhari are as well as Kanchanjunga conservation area. The visitors who visited from Tumlingtar to Baasantapur on his / her second day of journey can get enjoyment in his journey. Tumlingtar is the lowest valley of the world . chainpur Bazzar is another tourist destination . Most of the tourist prefer to visit from Tumlingtar to Basantapur on foot rather than by bus.

3rd day of journey

Basantapur 2hr Tuta Deurali 2hr Panch Pokhari 1hr Tinjure-Milke 2hr Chauki 1hr Mangalabare.

Third day of journey starts form Basantapur to Chauki or Mangalabare. Although the Basantapur and Chauki are connected by green road, most of the tourist prefer to travel on foot . road is under construction but not completed. It can be expected that this road will be completed within two years. Beautiful scene of Rhododendron forest , Himalayas, several pasture lands can be observed on the trekking route. After

two hours walk from Basantapur bazaar Tuta Deurali occurs which is covered by rhododendron forest. Panch Pokhari is another attraction in the TMJ area which is on the way . after two hours walk from Tuta Deurali , capital of rhododendron ‘Tinjure Milke’ area appears. Tourist get enjoy in the rhododendron forest of Tinjure Milke area. It is difficult to express the level of satisfaction of visitors of the TMJ area in Rhododendron blooming season.

4th Day of the journey

Mangalbare 1hr Sirjung 1hr Sirmana 1 hr Lampokhari 2hr Gupah pokhari 1/2hr Mencham Danda 1/2hr Jorpokhari 1hr Jaljale.

After chauki, Gupha pokhari is a human settlement . 1 faciliated 7 medium class and 15 poor class hotels are found in Gupahpokhari and Sukapokhari . Gupha pokhari is a beautiful pokhari which has historical importance. Guphapokhari is the major attraction of the area.

5th day of the journey

Jaljala 2hr Munala 2hr Dalla Pokhari 2hr Jaributta 2hr Gorjure 2hr Phedi 1/2hr Giddha

There are no transportation facilities after Gupha pokhari. Jaljala is the area where verities of rhododendron are found. There are some stable (Goth) to stay. Giddha is the last human settlement. There is large grazing land so several yaks and sheeps can be seen.

6th day of the journey

Giddha 2hr Manabhangyang 1/2hr Bhut Pokhari 2 hr Khambawala 2hr Phalala Himal 1hr Bhakari Chiruwa 5hr Sabhapokhari.

Sabha pokhari is the last destination of the trekkers and other pilgrimage tourist. There is some place to stay about 200 person by using tent. Some tea stall will be established during *janipurnima* when several tourists visit the sabhapokhari.

7th Day of the Journey

Sabhapokhari to Giddha. There is no transportation facility .

8th day of the Journey

Giddha to Guphapokhari.

9th day of the journey

Guphapokhari to Basantapur on foot or from Guphapokhari to Nundhaki on foot

10th day of the journey

From Basantapur to Biratnager or From Nundhaki To Tumlingtar by local bus or walk on foot.

11th day of the journey

From Tumlingtar to Kathmandu or From Biratnager to Kathmandu by air transport or by bus.

6.3.6 Knowledge of Local People about TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area

Participatory observation, interview and questionnaire were used to explore the knowledge of local people about TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

Table 6.7 : Knowledge of Local People about TMJ area

Information of TMJ area	No of Respondent	Percentage
Sufficient information	25	56 %
Few information	15	33%
No information	5	11%
Total	45	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2009

The above table shows that most of the local people are well informed about the importance of the TMJ area for the tourism industry. 25 respondents said they had

sufficient information which represent 56%. 15 respondent said they had few information about TMJ area and only 5 respondents said they had no information.

To identify the major tourism product of the TMJ and sabhapokhari area a question was asked to the 45 local respondent of the study area. The view of local people about tourism product of TMJ area is presented below.

Table 6.8 : Major Tourist Attraction of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

Major Attraction	No of Respondent	Percentage
Rhododendron forest	16	36%
Sabhapokhari	9	20%
Bio-Diversity	6	13%
Natural Beauty	2	4%
Climatic Diversity	5	11%
Culture	3	7%
Mount Kanchanjunga	4	9%
Total	45	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

There are several tourism product in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. To explore the knowledge of local people about major attraction of tourist in TmJ area, a question was asked to 45 respondents at the time of field survey. 16 respondents focused on Rhododendron forest. 9 respondent said sabhapokhari pond is major attraction. 6, 2, 5, 3, 4 respondents gave emphasis on Bio-diversity, Natural Beauty, climatic diversity, culture, mount Kanchanjunga respectively.

6.3.7 Length of Tourist Stay in TMJ & Sabhapokhari area

The length of stay of tourist differs according to their purposes of visit.

Some tourist visit this area for research and study, some other for trekking to kanchanjunga conservation area, other thousands of domestic and foreign tourist visit sabhapokhari during Janipurnima and spends about 12 days in the TMJ and sabhapokhari area but the tourist who visit Basantapur to Guphapokhari stay 7 days.

Average length of stay of tourist is 9 days in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. There are potentialities of development of Golf Course, establishment of view tower in Mencham Danda, developing rock climbing activities, boating and swimming in Gupha Pokhari, Lampokhari, Jor pokhari, Bhut pokhari and other different ponds. Average length of stay of the tourist can be increased by developing different tourist activities and also by expanding new trekking routes.

6.3. 8 The Expenditure Patterns of Tourists

The expenditure pattern of tourist is determined by the tourist activities, and tourism products, services, facilities offered to them in the tourism destination. TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is newly developed tourism destination so very few services and facilities were offered for the tourist. Even a facilitated hotel was not found in this area so the expenditure pattern of the tourist is lower. Expenditure pattern can be increased by offering new services, facilities and other tourism activities. No tourism activities are developed till now in the Basantapur, Chauki, Mangalabare, Guphapokhari and other place. If new tourist activities such as paragliding, rock climbing, jungle safari, horse ridding etc. are developed in the TMJ area, expenditure pattern can be increased.

There is no possibility to do higher expenses in the TMJ area because no facilities are offered till now. Most of the foreign tourist preferred to stay in tent in open area rather than in local hotels.

A hotel owner in Chauki said that all foreign tourist stay in the open land near the cahuki bazaar thy do not stay in the hotel . They do not buy any thing in the local area. They manage their all needs themselves so they do not spend any money in the local area. Local people of Chauki, mangalabare and Guphapokhari are getting less benefit from tourism industry so they are not interested towards tourism development.

6.3.9 Purpose of Visit of Tourist

The major purpose of tourist is trekking because this area is famous for different trekking route such as Kanchenjunga, Gufapokhari, Milkedanda-tumlingtar,

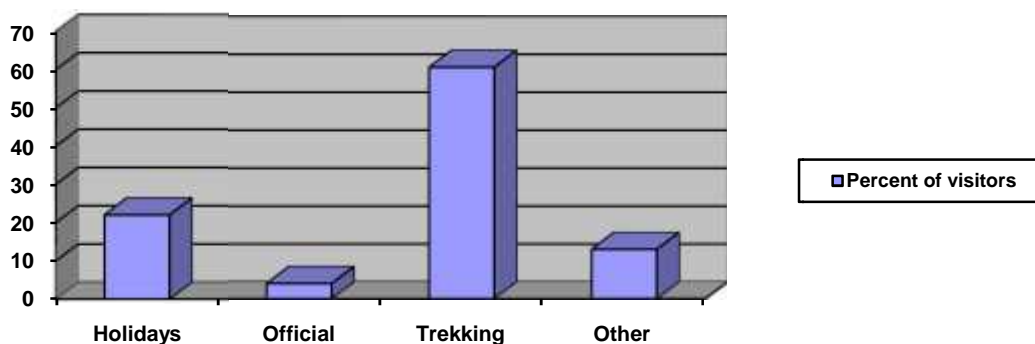
Gufapokhari and Dovan to Chainpur. TMJ region is natural flower garden of Rhododendron so many student from different country visits this area for study. Some domestic pilgrimage tourist from different district also visits this area every year.

Table 6. 9: Tourist Arrival by Purpose

Purpose of Visit	No of Tourist	Percentage
Holidays	30	22 %
Official	5	4 %
Trekking	85	61 %
Other	18	13 %
Total	138	100 %

Sources:-Local Police Post of Guphapokhari , 2008 .

Figure No. 6. 6 Purpose of Visit of Tourist



Sources:-Daily Tourist Record Book of Police Post of Guphapokhari , 2008 .

Record of local police post of Guphapokhari was studied to identify the tourist visiting purposes in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. That record showed the above data which is presented in table no 6.9.

Tinjur Milke and Jaljale area is popular for trekking and holidays. The above table No. 6.9 and figure no 6.7 shows that the 61% visitors are visiting the area for trekking. 22% tourist visit for holidays, 5% are official and 13% other purpose.

Direct questions were asked to local respondents to identify the tourist visiting purpose in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Local respondent gave their opinion which is presented below in table no 6.10.

Table No 6.10 Purpose of Visit of Tourist

Purpose of visit	No of Respondent	Percentage
Trekking	20	44 %
Tirtha-yatra	15	33%
Study	3	7%
Others	7	16%
Total	45	100 %

Source:- Field Survey, 2009

When questionnaire were asked to the 45 respondents of the study area, 20 respondent replied trekking which represents 44%, 33% respondent replied tirtha-yatra, 7% On study and 16% respondent replied others.

Local respondent's view and record showed that most of the tourist visit for trekking and tirtha-yatra.

6.4 Present Situation of Hotels, Lodges In Bashantapur, Chauki & Guphapokhari

As the tourist leave behind very minimal expenses in the area, the local are not getting their fair amount of share from tourism. The benefits of tourism is harnessed by Kathmandu based agencies. As a result of which, the in fractures created are negligible, sub-standard and less comfort. The products liked by tourist are not available on the trail and hygiene and sanitation together with management of disposal are completely neglected. In between Basantapur, chauki and Gufa Pokhari some tea stalls at every stoppage and also lodging facilities at Basantapur, Chauki

and Gufa Pokhari. Normally, tourist stay overnight at Chauki and the next camp is Gufa Pokhari. Few of them also take an overnight rest at Basantapur. In this entire place, they prefer to erect their own camps. They don't even prefer to consume the locally cooked food.

Basantapur bazaar is the old bazaar . around 500 house holds are found in the Basantapur. There are 11 hotel and lodges of medium size and 35 poor hotels in the Basantapur Bazar.

There are 30 house holds in Chauki among them 8 are medium and small size hotel. There are 45 house holds in Guphapokhari and sukapokhari .It is small and last human settlement in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. 1 medium level hotel and other 22 small hotels are found in the Guphapokhari. a very small settlement such as Ratnaule has 4 houses of which three are tea stalls Likewise all houses at Mangalbare are also lodge and tea stalls.

There had been a tendency of destroying the rhododendron trees first and then moving into a new area, as the wood became scare for them. An example of which is the new settlement at paanch pokhari, situated in a narrow strip and in the middle of dense rhododendron forest.

6.4.1 The Investment Patterns of Hotels/Lodges in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari .

Table 6.11: Investment Pattern of Hotels

Type of Hotels	Investment Rs in Lakh	Hotel in Basantapur	Hotel in Chauki	Hotel in Guphapokhari	Total	Percentage
Standard class	Above 10	5	0	1	6	8 %
Moderate class	6 to 9	4	2	2	8	10 %
Low class	3 to 6	2	3	4	9	12 %
Lower class	1 to 3	35	3	15	53	70 %
Total		46	8	22	76	100 %

Source:- Field Survey , 2009.

The standard of hotels and lodges depends on the pattern of investment primarily. The above table shows that the majority of the hotels are lower classes. Mainly the home stays are very cheaply operated with total investment of Rs. One lakh to three lakh. 70 percent of the total hotels and lodges falls under this category. 12 % hotels have invested three lakh to six lakh. 10% hotels falls under moderate class. Very few standard class hotels are found in the Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari. Only 8 % hotels have invested above 10 lakhs in the hotel.

6.4.2 Variation on Annual Income of Hotels

Annual income of the hotels is directly correlated with the investment and the facilities offered in the hotels and lodges. Most of the hotels are of medium and lower class so their income is also low. Most of the hotels of Chauki and Guphari are of small class and foreign tourists do not prefer to stay in these hotels and lodges so their income is not highly affected by the tourists visited in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. There were some middle class hotels in Basantapur of which daily income varies from two thousand to five thousands. Most of the foreign tourists prefer to live in their own tent, they do not buy local foods and other local products, and very few tourists live in local hotels so the level of income of the local community people is not improved.

6.4.3 The Sources of Market for Goods used in Hotels

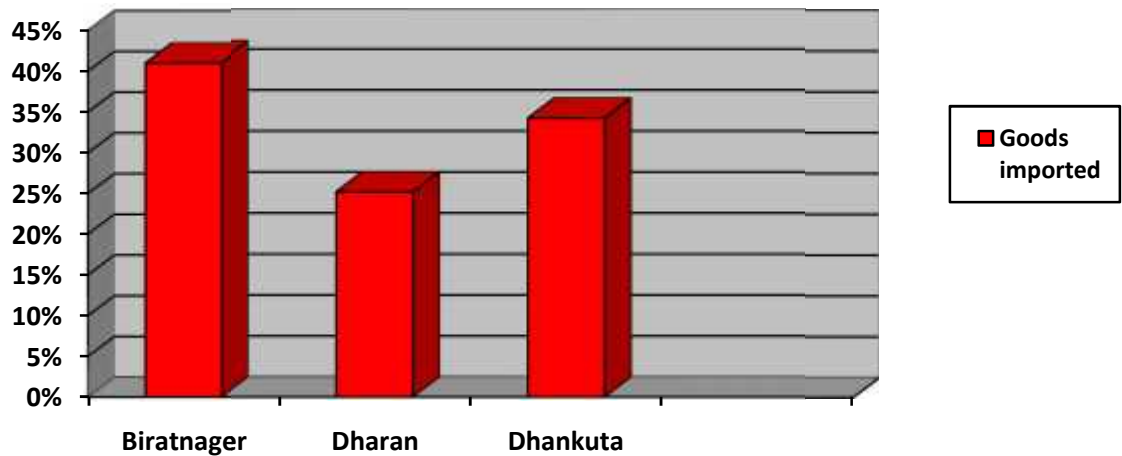
Local markets are not sufficient for the goods used in hotels. Especially green vegetables, meat, milk, butter, ghee, seasonal fruits and handicrafts are available for hotels but out of them, the owners of the hotels have to import from Kathmandu, Biratnagar, Dharan, Dhankuta and Hile Bazar.

Table 6.12: Source of Market for Goods Used in Hotels

Markets	No. of Hotel	Goods purchased in percentage
Biratnagar	31	41%
Dharan	19	25%
Dhankuta Bazar and Hile	26	34%
Total	76	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Figure 6.7 Source of Market for Goods Used in Hotels



Food items, readymade food, hard drinks and soft drinks, species, soap, clothes, rice, oil, kerosene, LPG and vegetables items are imported from Dharan, Itahari, biratnager, Dhankuta, and Hille Bazar. Guphapokhari and Cahuki are primarily dependent on Basantapur. People of Chauki and Guphapokhari primarily go to Basantapur for shopping. Basantapur is dependent on Itahari, Dharan, Biratnager and Jogmuni. Local people of chauki and Guphapokhari use animal power to carry goods from Basantapur. Potatos, cabbage, cauliflower, milk, meat, ghee, churpi are the major product of Basantapur and chauki. Very few vegetables are produced in Chauki village and near the Guphapokhari village. Churpi, ghee, wool, meat, milk are produced in the local area. Local production is not sufficient to fulfil the daily needs of the local people.

41% of hitel were importing goods from Biratnager, 25% were from Dharan and remaining 34% were importing from Dhankuta Bazar.

6.5 Price of food and Available facilities in hotel.

Price of food and other services is directly affected by its quality and availability. Locally produced foods and production are cheap but imported foods are expensive. The following table shows the average price of such foods and services offered in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari.

Table 6. 13: Average Price of Food and Service Available in the Hotel

SN	List of food and services	Price in Rs at Basantapur	Price at Chauki Price in Rs.	Price at Guphapokhari Price in Rs.
1	Mutton Rice	110	100	80
2	Vegetable Rice	70	60	40
3	Chicken Rice	100	90	80
4	Bread and Curry	75	65	40
5	Tuborg beer/ bottle	160	170	200
6	Carlsberg/bottle	165	180	195
7	Cocacola 500ml	50	60	NA
8	Milk tea/Cup	15	5	15
9	Black tea/Cup	10	4	10
10	Milk/glass	15	10	13
11	Red Label/Bottle	1800	1900	2000
12	Single Bed	150	40	20
13	Double Bed	300	75	50
14	Room	500	150	200

Source: - Field Survey, 2009

Table No. 6.13 shows the average price list of goods and service available in the Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari. Single Bed per person in common room cost Rs 150, Double bed in common room cost Rs. 300 and separate room with two bed cost Rs. 500.

6.5.1 Bed Capacity of the Hotels

Accommodation facility is one of the important components of tourism industry. It is necessary to identify the average bed capacity of the hotels in a tourism area. The following table shows the total bed capacity in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari.

Table 6.14: Average Bed Capacity of the Hotel

Name of place	Total Number of Bed	Percentage
Basantapur	375	48
Chauki	160	20
Guphapokhari	250	32
Total	785	100

Source:- Field survey 2009.

6.5.2 Number of Local People Indirectly involved in Tourism Industries

The major occupation of the local people of is agriculture so very little people are directly involved in tourism industry in TMJ and sabhapokhari area. Tourism industry is not major occupation of the local people so that very few people are involved in tourism indirectly and directly. None of the people engaged in tourism were found trained.

An estimated 100 – 150 persons were porters, earning daily wages of Rs 250 on the average per load. Family are directly involved in hotel industry no external employee are involved in tourism industry in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area.

6.5.3 Respondents View to Develop the VDC

During the field visit 45 respondents were asked about how their VDC could be developed. The number of respondents and their views are vividly pictured in the table below.

Table 6.15: Different Sectors of Development of VDC

Sector	No of Respondents	Percentage
Tourism development and modernization of agriculture	8	26
Tourism development and environmental conservation	10	22
Tourism development and education	4	9
Tourism development and transport	7	10
Modernization in agriculture and education	8	19
Environmental conservation and employment	2	4
Environmental conservation and education	3	4
Employment and health	3	6
Total	45	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Among the total respondents 26% gave emphasis on tourism development and modernization in agriculture, 22% respondents gave emphasis on tourism development and environmental conservation. 9% respondents gave emphasis on tourism development and education, 10% respondents gave emphasis on tourism development and transportation 19 % respondents focused on modernization of agriculture and education 4 %,4%,6% respondents gave emphasis on environmental conservation and employment ,environmental conservation and education , and employment and health respectively.

Thus 77 % respondents gave emphasis on tourism. Likewise, a considerable number of respondents gave emphasis on environment & employment, which is directly related with ecotourism. Such responses indicate the high potentiality of ecotourism to develop Tinjure Milke Jaljale and Sabhapokhari area.

6.6 Tourism Infrastructures in TMJ & Sabhapokhari Area.

i) Road Transport

Basantapur is connected by all weather roads. The regular public transports system links it with the cities like Dhankuta, Dharan Biratnager, Chainpur. Road to connect Basantapur with Gufa Pokhari, Basantapur to Mulkharka and Mangalabare to chainpur are under construction. Likewise, another road is planned to connect Gufa Pokhari with Taplejung. Though these roads may lead to further cutting of forest and specially the rhododendron trees. There is least possibility of this construction being stopped, as there is a growing local demand in favor of the road. Road is the major causes of deforestation of the rhododendron forest. Road is being constructed through rhododendron forest so thousands of rhododendron trees are cut down. Road is under construction from Basantapur to Guphapokhari but not completed till now. Tourist have to walk on foot from Basantapur to Guphapokhari. Some tractor, van and Tata mobile are used to carry goods from Basantapur to Panchpokhari. It can be hoped that Basantapur and Guphapokhari will be connected by road within two years.

ii) Air Transport

Tumlingtar airport is nearest air transportation facility for the TMJ and sabhapokhari area. Tumlingtar is connected with Biratnagert and Kathmandu by air transpost. Many foreign and domestic tourist from Kathmandu and Biratnagar travel this area by aero plane. It is the expensive but faster and safe way of transportation in this area.

III) Accommodation Facility

There are several hotels and lodges in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari. Some of the hotels are of standard class and some of them are medium class. The number of hotels, bed capacity and its cost are described in above figure and table.

IV) Security Post

There is Regional police post in Basantapur, local police post in Chauki and also in Guphapokhari. These police post are giving security to the local people. Local police post are also keeping the updated record of tourist visiting this area. local police posts are also playing the role of tourist information centre.

V) Tourist information centre.

There is no tourist information centre in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari. Tourist information centre is important tourism infrastructure in any tourist destination but it is lacking in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

VI) Physical infrastructures available in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari.

- a) **Road:-** Basantapur is connected with all weather road. Road is under construction to connect Basantapur, Chauki, Guphapokhari and Teplejung.
- b) **Communication:-** There around 50 telephones in the Basantapur Bazar. internet facilities are also found in Basantipur but little expensive. Per hour per person cost rs 80. Telephone facility was also found in Chauki but only in one palce. 5 telephone line (cordless) are found in Guphapokhari but no enternet facilities are available. There Was a post office in Basantapur.
- c) **Drinking water:-** The need of Drinking water is fulfilled by utilizing local sources of water. Drinking water facilities are foud in Basantapur, Chauki and also in Guphapokhari. Local people and some non governmental organization has also contributed to provide drinking water in this area.
- d) **Electricity:-** Basantapur is connected with national transmission line so there no problem of electricity facility but due to higher national demand than its supply Basantapur is also Facing load sheduing problem in winter season. Electricity is generated in Chauki and Guphapokhari from local water resources. Small amount of fee is collecte to manage and to repair and mentain it.
- e) **Health care Centre:-** A primary health care centre was found in Basantapur but no health care centre was found in chauki and Guphapokhari. Local people of that area should go to Basantapur to get health facility. Two private medical are also found in the basantapur.
- f) **School and College:-** a primary school was found in Chauki and also in Guphapokhari. There is private boarding school, and public school from one class to ten classes in basantapur. There is also higher secondary school in Basantapur.

- g) **Dumping site:-** there was no well managed dumping site to dispose waste produced in the human settlement. Solid waste and liquid waste were not properly disposed in the Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari. Solid waste was found dumped improperly near the human settlement so that it can pollute soil and that waste might be the causes of several diseases.
- h) **Play ground:-** There were some play grounds in the ground of school and college in Basantapur, Chauki and Guphapokhari.

6.7 Community's Response for Tourism Development.

Local people are aware about the cost and benefit of tourism industry in this area. People have known of the benefit of tourism but seldom experienced it. They are found to be very keen on promoting tourism in their area. As they are already introduced to tourism, they have an idea of tourist's likes and dislikes; they know their capacities and limitations. During the survey, they have shown their interest in upgrading their skills for which the training is required. The sense belonging to the community is exemplary and cutthroat competition doesn't prevail. Their innocent smiling faces together with admirable hospitality makes the tourists' stay pleasant and comfortable.

There is need of good quality lodges/resorts and restaurants at different places such as Basantapur, Deurali, Panchpokhari, Chauki, Guphapokhari, Giddha and near the Sabhapokhari. But the local investments are not found to be sufficient. The community is not against bringing in outside investments for those facilities; however, they showed their preference to have a joint venture with them.

Community forestry programs are introduced in different localities, which served extremely well to bring people together as one group for achieving the common cause. Wherever the forests are handed over to the community there has been a total ban on further cutting of green trees. Some of the communities have placed heavy fines for cutting rhododendron trees. The survey discovered that after getting into community forestry scheme, the rhododendron trees are not cut for the last three years in Chauki. Similarly in other areas too, user groups are found to be happy with the fuel wood provided to them bi-annually by the forest management committee. This

experience to the community working together will help in implementing a similar model without community's hesitation. As they are known to the mutual benefits accruing from the community concept, tourism management model in the study area with central element of community as the major beneficiary will be highly favored by the residents.

6.8 Present Energy Use pattern in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

Local people of TMJ and sabhapokhari area are using fuelwood for cooking food and heating the room. Because of cold climate and low temperature of the area local people are depend on fuel wood from community forest. Due to higher demand of fuelwoods, there is higher pressure on rhododendron forest of the TMJ area.

i) Human is source of energy

Human are involved to carry goods and necessary items from urban area. Human power also helps to save the fuel .

ii) Cooking and space Heating

Fuel wood for cooking and heating mainly from rhododendron forest. Most of the trees were found rhododendron so major sources of fuel wood is the rhododendron.

Kerosene stoves is used only in some accessible area like Basantapur. Biogas is not popular because of high altitude and low temperature.

Communities have been using traditional stove and techniques like three stone stove, odhan, and two pothole stoves.

Nundhaki is consuming the highest quantity of fuel wood per household (734kg per week) for household cooking and animal feeding .

Mostly female and children and are involved in collection of fuel wood. No family are involved in selling of fuel wood.

Centre for Rural Technology Nepal (CRTN) has been involved in the promotion and dissemination of rural and renewable energy technologies eg solar dryers, ICS, solar cookers, biogas ect. Since 1990 by providing information, organizing exhibition and trainings. The exhibition was held from February 19-24, 2001 at Chauki Bazar.

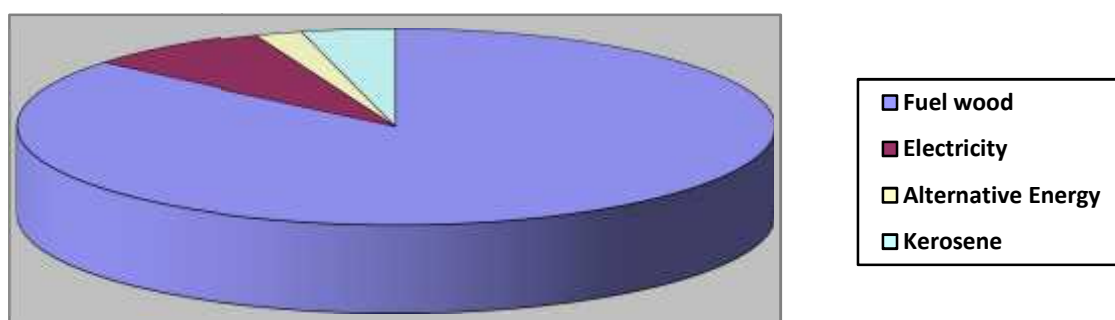
Community forest fulfils the fuel demand of the Guphapokhari and Chauki. Other local people of that area are dependent in the community forest.

Table 6.16: Sources of Energy Supply

S N	Types of Energy	Sources of energy	Usage	No. of Respondent	Percent
1	Fuel Wood	Community forest	Cooking food, heating room	38	86%
2	Electricity	Pelectricset	Light	4	8%
3	Alternative energy	Solar power	Lighting , charging phone set Watching television.	1	2%
4	Kerosene	Kerosene Depot	Lighting, heating room, cooking food	2	4%
			Total	45	100 %

Source :- Field Survey, 2009.

Figure No. 6.8 Sources of Energy supply



Source :- Field Survey, 2009.

The table no 17 and figure no 10 shows that community forest is the major sources of energy in the TMJ and sabhapokhari area. Locals have no alternatives of consumption of fuel wood. only 8% of the total fuel consumption is supplied by electricity. 4% energy is fulfilled from fossil fuel, 2% from solar energy and rest 86% energy demand is fulfilled by community forest. The statistics shows that the importance of forest resources and higher pressure on rhododendron forest. To reduce the higher pressure on rhododendron forest the alternative sources of energy can be used.

6.9 Impacts of Ecotourism in TMJ & Sabhapokhari area:

6.9.1 Introduction

Ecotourism is one of the fastest growing trade in the worldwide tourism industry. It affects the village society and socio economic patterns of the people. It influences food habits, family structure, religion, language, and psychology of the local people. The conceptual meaning of ecotourism is the purposeful travel to natural areas to understand the natural, cultural history of environment, taking care not alter the integrity of the ecosystem while producing economic opportunity that makes conservation of natural resource financially benefit to the local citizens (ecotourism 1992). It is not exclusively an economic phenomenon. It also involves socio-cultural, political and environmental aspects.

6.9.2 Economic Impact

Ecotourism helps to keep local craft industries alive, save the traditional weaving and wood carving, generate employment and income, develop infrastructures and numbers of industries. It has multiplier effects on different dimensions of development. Tourism creates employment to locals and helps to increase the level of income. It also helps to increase the government income through fees and tax paid by tourist. Airways company, Travel agencies, hotel owner, transport company are the real beneficiary of tourism industry. local product also get market so it also helps to improve the level of living of farmer.

Table No. 6.17: Direct Local Employment and Salary Pattern

Salary pattern (Rs. Per month)	No. Of unskilled employees	Percentage	No. Of skilled employees	Percentage	Total
Below Rs. 2000	10	31	4	13	14
2000-3000	5	16	7	23	12
3000-4000	11	34	5	16	16
Above 4000	6	19	15	48	21
Total	32	100	31	100	63

Source: Field Survey, 2009

Among twelve lodges & hotels, altogether 63 local employees have got employment opportunities. Above table reveals that 31 local employees are skilled and remaining 32 are unskilled working in different hotels & lodges in Basantapur. 22 % of local employees (skilled and unskilled) are getting below than 2000 (Rs) salary per month, 19% are drawing 2000-3000 (Rs) salary per month. Similarly 26% are drawing 3000 to 4000 (Rs.) salary per month, only 33% of total local employees are drawing above 4000 (Rs) salary per month. Skilled Employee are getting extra facilities plus bonus than unskilled employee so skilled employee are earning more than unskilled.

Entry fees can be collected from tourist to further development of the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Tourist will also feel that they are contributing for the protection and development of natural resources and biodiversity of the world if the collected fees is properly utilized by local tourism development committee. There are several economic opportunities to the locals in the TMJ area through ecotourism development.

The fact is that the local people of Basantapur, Chauki, Mangalbare, Guphapokhari and sukapokhari are directly benefited by the development of tourism industry . It seems that the further development of tourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari is likely to raise economic condition of the people. It is only the feasible industry to achieve the overall development of the areas. For the local people's economic well being, it is

necessary to co-ordinate the activities of local people with tourism activities e.g. farming, horticulture, dairy production, souvenir shopping, pig family, traditional or cultural show etc. may be flourished and rural poverty may be eliminated.

In brief, ecotourism activities may bring drastic change in economic sector of Tinjure, Milke, Jaljala and Sabhapokhari VDC by addressing employment and income opportunity for local, market for local production and permanent source of foreign currencies earning if it has the proper planning and implementing the ecotourism policies and strategies.

6.9.3 Social Impact

Traditionally, service type work such as lodge-keeping, grain, oil, cloth, tool, etc. Sales crafts work, and labor /pottering work are divided according to caste and the economic status, factors which are often interrelated . this socio-economic hierarchy is evident among people in the project area involved in different aspects of tourism trade.

In most communities, lodges are owned and operated primarily by Newars and Brimin-chhetri, secondary by Gurung and lastly by sherpas , Bhota or Limbus. Food sales in shops follows similar caste lines and everybody is a farmer.

Among the labor ranks, Shrepas are often chosen for high altitude protering and climbing work, although many of those employed by mountaineering teams in the Makalu Are come from the Khumbu region, not here. Lowland porters employed in trekking in this region are primarily Bhramin-Chhetri and other of the eastern Terai, and the sturdy Rai and Limbu.

With new chances for economic gain from the development of tourism, it is likely that benefits will be realized along similar lines. Those with the money and skills to invest in lodge constriction or other infrastructure and production components, or if not the money the status to borrow or rise, it will benefits the most, reinforcing age-old priorities among castes and sexes. Women will likely follow tradition and not take on entrepreneurship tasks. Porters will continue to suffer the whim of market forces except for those with skills such as high altitude tolerance, who also suffer under

harsh life-threatening conditions. Programs and policies for village entrepreneurship and local management should attempt to help those of lower economic status. Those in greatest need- with training and loan assistance to help equalize development opportunities.

6.9.4 Environmental Impact:

An area worthy of special protection is the Milke Danda-Jalijale Himal range. Milke Danda-Jalijale Himal faces perhaps the greatest threat not only from increased tourism but from local users. There are no permanent settlements atop the 3-5,000 meter, north-south running ridge. During three to four months every summer, however, hundreds of herders tend thousands of head of cow, goat and yak (as well as crossbreeds), staying in Goths, burning cut wood, primarily rhododendron branches, to cook their food. The rhododendron forests with more than dozen varieties are thinning and at these elevations take decades to grow back. On the western slopes, hillsides once thick with giant fir trees are being cut bare for timber use, except at the upper most reaches. Livestock, like their tenders, are increasing in numbers every season and may eventually threaten the grasses' regeneration powers.

Although few trekkers use this route at present, more are expected. The ridge offers rare wilderness qualities and magnificent mountain views just three to four days walk from a roadhead. Uninterrupted views take in the retire Makalu- Chamlang massif to the west, and the massive Kanchenjunga range extending north into Tibet on the east. High altitude vegetation combined with spectacular rhododendron blooms in spring make this a prime botanical study area for tourists and scientists, and a peaceful retreat for many others.

With the combined demands of local users and tourists for fuelwood in this high, cold environment, the forests on Milke Danda-Jalijale Himal will decling quickly unless some protection is offered governing wood cutting or alternative fuel use issue.

6.9.5 Cultural Impacts:- With increased access afforded by the service roads, tourists will enter areas where local inhabitants have had little or no exposure to foreigners and there are lijely to be some cultural conflits , as seen in other trekking areas of Nepal.

CHAPTER 7

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

7.1 Summary

There are various proposes for visiting Nepal such as holiday making pleasure seeking, trekking/mountaineering, business, pilgrimage, official mission, or conferences attendance. From the very beginning of tourism development, the majority of visitors did come to Nepal for holiday and pleasure. Most of them remained in Kathmandu valley and some other urban areas. Only those falling into categories of trekking and mountaineering visited rural remote areas. It is the latter group of tourist who will be important for economic transformations in the TMJ area. Mountain tourism, which includes scaling and peaks, has been one of the most important attributed throughout the different parts of the country. Therefore mountain tourism has been playing the dual role. Firstly it is the cause of attracting foreign visitors from all over the world who travel to different parts of the country. Secondly, it also helps to safeguard against the concentration of tourism income in only some part of the country. Although mountain tourists form a fraction compared to the national influx, they are an important component of the tourism industry.

At Basantapur, one finds in the middle of various attraction. It is the entry point of the TMJ area. Its conservation can be augmented through the promotion of both domestic and international tourism. For instance, within the area, an oriented culture where religion plays vital role in shaping the livelihood and socio-cultural behavior of people exists, at the same time, presence of religious sites of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area could be a major attraction for Hindu community.

TMJ and sabhapokhari area is rich in natural biodiversity offering subtropical monsoon to cool temperate monsoon type of climate, a number of flora and fauna inhabitant in its surroundings seems to touch the heaven. To experience heavenly beauty and relaxation, the peace and tranquility of timelessness, a stay in TMJ is the ideal choice.

It is inhabited by simple and friendly people having their professions as agriculture, livestock rearing, tourism and cottage industries, which play the vital role in the economy of the people. Almost all the people are engaged in agriculture. But in recent year the area is becoming very popular for the ecotourism, most of the tourists visit this area for trekking, sightseeing, natural beauty, cultural monuments, wildlife and vegetations, bird watching, study or research. These ecotourism activities can have significant impact on employment, education, culture, and agriculture and income level of local people. It can increase living standard of these people as a whole.

Accessibility, pleasant climate, richness of natural beauty, suitable place for view point, high stock of biodiversity and native culture of simple and friendly people make TMJ and Sabhapokhari area as a unique ecotourism destination.

Eventhough, TMJ and Sabhapokhari area has a huge prospect or potentiality of ecotourism development, it has some major challenges and problems e.g. transportation and communication, trained manpower, health and sanitation, recreational facilities, seasonal fluctuation of tourist arrivals, tourist information centers, good quality hotels, peace and security etc. If present problems and changes have been solved, TMJ and Sabhapokhari may be developed and promoted as ecotourism destination.

The field survey shows that TMJ and Sabhapokhari area is economically very poor, agricultural land is not fertile and not irrigated, a little bit prospect of income generation from horticulture is seen but labor force is lacking, young generation migrated to Kathmandu and abroad countries in search of job and education. Rest of the aged people is engaged in agriculture and livestock rising. In spite of this, people are eager to welcome tourists and swear to be hospitable and respect to all the foreigners. Therefore, huge potentialities as well as problems of ecotourism development in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area are existing to develop and promote prospects of ecotourism by transforming them into tourist products. The goal of ecotourism can be achieved with poverty alleviation, employment opportunity creations, and income generation in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

7.2 Conclusion

TMJ and Sabhapokhari area contains a number of tourism products such as beautiful landscapes, rhododendron forest, well-conserved hills. Lush green meadows, smooth walking trail, traditional settlements, peace and tranquility, safety, caves , temples , some historical sites. Waterfalls, elephant and human footprints on the stone ,sabhapokhari, Gufapokhari, Lampokhari, Banduk pokhari and several ponds lakes, grazing land etc. TMJ and sabhapokhari area is offering a capture based excellent adventure products. As the trail passes through three districts inhabited by multicultural ethnic groups, their social behavior, customs and culture including the above products could be utilized for the purposes of tourism. Abundant potential of emerging as prime tourist destination of the kingdom.

TMJ and Sabhapokhari area requires ecotourism which is one of the few economic opportunities, creating cash, income and employment. So, ecotourism development in TMJ and Sabhapokhari helps to benefit local communities and uplift the rural economy. Nature conservation and cultural preservation require ecotourism because it can generate the income to pay for the conservation and preservation efforts and safeguard, the attractions. Rich nature and culture are major assets for ecotourism development. Through ecotourism it is possible to create link between local communities and tourists. Active local people's participation in planning, implementation and management of their own socio-economic and political development, and benefit sharing is one of the basic issues of eco-tourism eco-tourist equally cares to the sustainable use of natural resources.

TMJ and Sabhapokhari has a great prospect of ecotourism . tourists can come to this area for research, sightseeing, ecotrekking, recreation, culture study, observation and investigation, bird watching, rock climbing, wildlife and animals, study of biodiversity several pilgrimage tourist visits sabhapokhari every year.

TMJ and Sabha pokhari ara is highly potential area for ecotourism. For proper ecotourism development , some level of infrastructure should be established. But the TMJ and sabhapokhari area is lacking good quality hotels, toilets bathroom , drinking

water, food items. Transportation and communication facilities. Forest is the main sources of energy for cooking and heating so there is higher pressure on rhododendron forest. Only local foods like; Dal Phat, Local vegetables are available which may not be preferable for all tourist . Major sources of energy is rhododendron forest and major occupation of local community is livestock raring so both of them gives higher pressure on rhododendron forest.

In brief, ecotourism can be only a strategy to cope rural poverty and deprivation. Therefore problems and challenges of ecotourism should be overcome and development and promotion of ecotourism should be accelerated ahead. For this, there is necessity to integrate tourism and management, nature conservation and management, cultural resource conservation and community development for the benefit of local people and tourists. If ecotourism is adopted, there will be very bright future of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. It can bring drastic changes in the socio-economic condition of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area . Ecotourism here will conserve the nature and culture with sustainable use of resources by involving local people if it is well planned and managed. With combined efforts, it is sure that we can make tourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area ecologically sound economically viable and culturally acceptable for sustainable utilization of natural resources.

7.3 Recommendation

The problem of poverty and deprivation is rooted deeply in rural economy. Rural Development aims to uplift the rural life of people by alleviating poverty-connected problem. There are many ways and means of developing uplifting rural life. One of them is tourism in general and ecotourism in particular in such rural areas, which are similar to Sankhuwasabha having huge prospects of ecotourism. Therefore, this study shows that ecotourism is only alternative vehicle for the upliftment of overall dimensions of the rural life. Following recommendations for the solution of challenges and problems of ecotourism as well as for the improvement of the ecotourism potentiality/prospects have been given to the local peoples. Sankhuwasabha is highly potential for tourism development. TMJ and sabhapokhari area is highly potential for ecotourism. Due to it's unioque feature and richness in

biodiversity specifically rhododendron species. It can be a best tourist destination in eastern part of Nepal. Although there is higher potentialities of tourism development, very minimal no of tourist visit that area in a year. Ecotourism Is best way of conservation of natural resources so that natural resources should be conserved in optimal way. To develop the Tinjure-milke- jaljale and sabhapokhari area as a best tourist destination some specific recommendation are given below.

i) Establishment of at least five community hotels in trekking routes.

Very few hotels with lower physical facilities are found in the study area. Standard of lodges constructed on the trekking route neither demonstrated the local architecture nor provides comfort to the visitors. Cleanness, toilet facilities and other minimum necessities are also not adequately maintained. Thus, in order to attract tourist to stay in lodges and have food cooked locally there is a need of improving the standard of existing lodges and tea stall. A facilitated community hotels should be established in *Basantapur, GufaPokhari, Chauki, Mangalbare, Gidde* and near the *sabhapokhari*. These community hotels should be established by utilizing locally available wood, mud, stone, straw, bamboo and other locally available raw materials for its uniqueness. No use of aluminum, Tin are preferable. Furniture from bamboo like; chair, bookrack, shoes rack, cupboard, table are to be used for its uniqueness and that can uplift income level of local people. Uses of locally produced food items in hotel can increase level of income of local people so that community people will be positive towards positive impact of tourism.

II) Rhododendron plantation program

Rhododendron is the major attraction of the TMJ and sabhapokhari region. There are so many barrel land in Chauki, mangalbare, shremane, and Guphapokhari where beautiful botanical garden can be established. A rhododendron protection committee of local people should be formed. Rhododendron protection fund should be provisioned by rhododendron committee. That fund can be generated by collecting membership fee from local people and a portion of income of community hotels and also from donation from tourist, donor agency, Nepal Tourism Board and Nepal government. That fund should be mobilized for construction and protection of that

botanical garden. A area for botanical garden should be selected and managed by local people. An nursery of different species of rhododendron should be established near the botanical garden. Rhododendron protection committee can operate nursery and prepare site for plantation, it also can encourage each tourist to plant rhododendron plant at that botanical garden. All details including name, address, country and other details of that tourist should be note down. Name of that rhododendron plant can be given by the name of that tourist who planted it, that tourist may donate to the rhododendron protection fund and can get membership of rhododendron protection committee.

That rhododendron protection garden will be the unique tourism product of that area and it is a participatory way of conservation of natural resources.

III) There are some larger natural caves and rocky slopes in the TMJ and sabhapokhari area so they need to improve. There is a famous cave near the Mencham Danda that need to further developed so that several tourist can easily visit it. There is not any human settlement after Gufapokhari so visitors and trekkers have to stay on rocky caves and natural Gufa which are called *Odhar* in local language. These Gufa need to improve by putting furniture and by giving security. If these Gufa are improved, tourist can rest comfortably and they will be ready to pay some fee. That fee can be utilized to further development of Gufa.

To reside in Gufa is exciting amusement for the foreign tourist. Improved rocky caves can be a unique tourist product of the region.

IV) Products Development

Though the area is known mostly for the rhododendron flowers, the spring season is ranked second to the autumn season for the visitors in other than flowering season, the area offers lush green forest of rhododendron suitable for natural healthy trekking. Hence, for the publicity and promotion of the route, rhododendron should be conserved as the flagship product. For this purpose, a suitable theme and logo should be developed after the interaction with trekking agencies that are handling the groups to the area.

TMJ and sabhapokhari region is rich in a number of non-consumptive tourism products such as rhododendron forests, temples, caves and waterfall etc. local people also have skills to produce to consumable tourist favored products. In order to save the environment and further enhance the conservation of natural products, farming practice also got to be improved. Some specific recommendation for product development is given below.

- Rehabilitate the caves, temples, ponds and waterfalls
- Encourage production of souvenir items preferable by tourist such as Khukri, Dhaka materials, products from sheep wool. Cap, Sweater, Carpet etc.
- production of cheese and *Churpi*
- Adopt ecologically suitable farming practice
- Regulate livestock grazing, encourage rotation grazing practice and phase out the highland grazing.

V) Awareness and Training

Efforts should be made to launch public awareness programs in such a way that local people know the resources they have conserved since time immorial and the natural beauty which can attract tourist . public awareness programs should be also help local people in realizing the importance of conserving them for both present and future generation.

In order to improve the quality of available services, training course in the tourism related subjects need to be conducted. Hence ,it is desirable to;

- launch awareness activities including mobile camping by NORM in association with the schools, NGOS and other partners preferably through songs, dramas and dances.
- prepare and distribute code of conduct separately for visitors and local investors – take supports of TAAN, NMA, HRA, NTB etc.

- Launch site-specific orientation program.
- organize familiarization tour of trekking and travel agencies to TMJ
- send local investors on a familiarization trip to ACAP, Sirubari, Bandipur, Ghaleguon, to have a feel of community involved tourism development and in upgrading and managing of tourism activity
- organizing training for lodge management, sanitation and hygiene, food preparation, and nature trek guides etc.
- initiate women skill development program- establish women group to undertake socio-cultural activities and participating in the small rural development works as *Aama Samuha* in the ACAP region.

VI) Publicity, Promotion and Marketing

Publicity and promotion are the key elements for introducing and attracting the visitors to the area. For the publicity and promotion of the area audio video materials could be used. The audio-visual production , use of print materials and information centers will be the major contributors in promoting the area. The action should include;

- printing colorful attractive brochures, pamphlets, posters by the committee/ NTB/ concerned trekking agencies.
- involve national print and audio-visual media for including this area in their presentations.
- organize TMJ festival at Kathmandu- with a view to introduce the area and continue it in the TMJ area.
- conducting marketing for domestic and international travelers through NTB and tourism-related agencies in consultation with the management committee.

- A visual documentary should be prepared in It can be distributed to visitors and also can be sold in market.

VII) Sanitation and Hygiene

It should be an important component of the ecotourism development efforts. The study area has only minimum sanitation facilities available. Under this following activities got to be implemented.

- campsite should have toilet and kitchen facilities available
- waste management should be ensured by keeping waste bins and managing it timely collection thereby adopting safe disposal practice, preferably burning or burying.
- local people should be encouraged to clean the settlement area and to use toilet for defecation.
- Littering should be avoided along the settlement areas and camping sites.

VIII) Energy

At present, local people are using the fuel wood as only sources of energy along the trek route. It has increased pressure on rhododendron forest. Cold climate has compelled the local people to use more fuel wood and pressure on local forest has increased due to afford for alternative energy. To reduce pressure on deforestation and to increase the volume of rhododendron forest following actions are desirable.

- support the initiatives of user groups in the community forestry programs to have a better managed forest and conduct regular evaluation of implementation of forest management plan.
- encourage the users groups by honoring their contribution to conserve the environment.
- promote fuel wood and fodder plantation both in community and national forests considering species having high caloric value and nutrient.

- Introduce energy efficient stoves and bio-briquette making system and solar drying system.
- Establish kerosene depots at major settlements
- Stop campfire if any in all place.

IX) Safety, security, Communication Facilities and Essential Necessities

Existing trek route is comparatively safe and secured. The newly established police posts have further enhanced the safety situation in the study area. Communication is not available at all major centers and health post facilities are totally lacking. To address these essential needs, some important works should be urgently undertaken. To address these essential needs, some important works should be urgently undertaken.

- Establish well equipped health posts at major settlements.
- Make available communication facilities at every overnight stoppage
- Keep up-to-date entry and exist records of all visitors at the police posts.
- Utilize these police posts also at the check posts keeping the record of all items carried by trekkers inside the TMJ and sabhapokhari area, make sure that all non biodegradable items are brought back.
- Encourage rain water collection to be used for drinking purposes after purification

X) Tourist Receipt and its Retention

In order to receive the local community's support in tourism, a sizable portion of tourism earning should be retained at the local level. It becomes possible only if the tourist uses the local services and facilities and consumes local food. It would be very difficult for local private individual investors to manage it on his/her own. Hence the management committee should play a crucial role to bring coordination between service provider and the buyers. The following matters should be strictly observed.

- Encourage the tourists to use local services, facilities and food items
- Guarantee availability of all necessary items at the site by the management committee.
- Have a proper cooperation between trekking agencies and the management committee
- Initiate levying certain entry fees in TMJ and sabhapokhari area- the management committee is entrusted to collect the fee and use it for the social development and conservation purposes.

In order to introduce the TMJ area in the tourist map of Nepal, a number of activities should be implemented. A sizable rhododendron forest, preferable, north of milke, should be managed in the form of *Strict Nature Reserve* in order to ensuring plant genetic resources conservation; tourism products should be established and standardized. The proposed activities include launching of awareness and demand driven training programs , preparing and distributing of code of conduct, organizing familiarization tours, organizing TMJ festival, and establishing VICs serving also as a local handicraft collection and sales centre, and ensuring better sanitation and hygiene facilities . similarly emphasis should be given to minimize the use of firewood by utilizing alternative sources of energy, and establish lodging facilities preferably in joint venture.

Three settlements in the study deserve merit for developing tourism facilities initially. They are; Basantapur, Chauki and Gufapokhari. A number of activities have been proposed for these areas for five years as a part of site-specific prospectus action plans. They are related , inter alia, to campsite development with kitchen/ toilet, standardization of establishments , launching awareness program and familiarization tour, organizing training programs and TMJ festival, waste management , establishment of VIC , health post, kerosene depots, quality resort and cheese factory and production of souvenir items. The proposed management committee should implement them. Effective implementation of these activities will hopefully bring a

positive result in conserving the rhododendron forest and in improving the living standard of the local people.

As TMJ area has a potential for ecotourism development,. It is recommended to explore Milke to Jaljale area to the earliest possible, most parts in the TMJ area is still unexplored. In this perspective, it is recommended to explore north of Jaljala/ sabhapokhari/ topke gola/ thundam area, phase out highland grazing and so on. This initiative will likely internalize ecotourism development activities in TMJ area.

xi) Expansion of Tourism Activities in The Chauki and Guphapokhari and other area in the trekking route

- a) **Paragliding:-** there is higher potektialities of paraglkiding activities in Guphapokhari area. Paragliding activities can be conducted from Mencham Danda.
- b) **Rock climbing:-** there are so many places where the rock climbing activities can be started. These activities can be started near the Deurali Danda, as well as in Mencham Danda. There are so many other rocky slopes In the Tinjure milke and jaljale area in the trekking route.
- c) **Horse Ridding:-** Horse ridding is one of the interesting tourism activities. It is popular in mustang of Nepal. Horse ridding activities can be conducted in the Guphapokhari and surrounding area.
- d) **Jungle Safari:-** Jungle safari is another potential tourism activity in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area. Jungle safari from Chauki to Guphapokhari is one of the potential tourism activities that can be implemente in this area. The forest of this area is rich in forest diversity and verities of rhododendron can be observed in the area.
- e) **Establishment of View Tower in the Mancham Danda.**

Mencham Danda is a beautiful hill in the TMJ area. That hill seperates the three districts, Sankhuwasabha, Teplejung and Terthatum. This is the god gifted beautiful tower of the area from where several hills of different district and beautiful secene of Himalayan peaks can be seen.

f) Establishment of Golf Course

There are so many open land near by Guphapokhari in which gulf course can be operated. There are all the basic features to establish the Gulf course. Gulf can be a mojaor tourism activity for tourist if it is started now.

The expansion of these tourism activities in the Cahuki and Guphapokari will increase the total number of visitors from different country of the world and also helps for the publicity of the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

Bibliography

- Agrawal, M.K. and Upaddhyay, Rudra Prasad, (2006). *Tourism and Economic Development in Nepal*. New Delhi : Northern Book Centre.
- Banskota, kamal and Bikash Sharma, (1998). *Mountain Tourism for Local Development Training Manual for Policy Planners in Tourism and Related Areas*. Kathmandu: ICIMOD.
- Banskota, K. and Upadhyay, M. (1991). *Impact of Rural Tourism on the Environment, Income and Employment in the Makalu Barun Area*. Kathmandu: Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation and Woodland Mountain Institute.
- Beun, Monique and Anupa Lamichhane (1999). *Feasibility Study on Village Tourism (in Nawalparasi Hills)*. Kathmandu: Action Aid Nepal.
- Bhatia, A.K. (2002). *International Tourism Management*. New Delhi: Sterling publishers Privet limited.
- Central Bureau of Statistics (2002). *Population Census*. Kathmandu: HMG.
- Centre for Rural Technology, (2001). *Report on Assessment of Exesting energy Scenario in Rhododendron area in TMJ focusing on Chauki village and Identifying alternative energy Option*, Unpublished Report on Assessment of Exesting Energy Scenario in Rhododendron Area in TMJ, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Chaudhary, R.P.(2001). *Ecotourism: Bridge Between Biodiversity Conservation and Development in Nepal*. Kathmandu: Graduate School of Environmental Earth Science Japan/Institute of Science and Technology.
- Chauhan, Yashwant Singh, (2004). *Ecotourism in Nepal*. Delhi: Kalinga Publications.

- Dhakal, Dipak Raj (2006). *Problems and Prospects of Ecotourism in Nepal: A case Study of Bandipur, Tanahu*, Unpublished Thesis, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Central Department of Rural Development, TU, Kirtipur.
- Dhakal, Dipendra P (1999). *Development of Ecotourism in Tinjure-Milke-Jaljale* Unpublished Draft Report Submitted to IUCN, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- District Forest Office, (2007). A leaflet about Rhododendron of TMJ Area. Sankhuwasabha, District forest Office.
- Fleming, W. B. (1991). *Arun III: Management of Basinwide Environmental Impact study*, Unpublished Report Submitted to King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Ghimire, Dipak Chandra (2002). *Problems and Prospects of Ecotourism in Chitwan; A case Study of Sauraha*, Unpublished Thesis in Central Department of Management, TU., Kirtipur
- Goeldner, Charles R. J.R. Brent Ritchie and Robert W. McIntosh (eds) 2000, *Tourism Principles, Practice Philosophy*, New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- HMG, (2060). *Tenth Plan*, NPC, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- IUCN (1999). “*Laliguras Samrachan Byabasthapan Niti Tarjuma Sahabhitamulak Karyasala Gosthi*”, Unpublished Seminar Paper, Two days Workshop organized on Chauki, Nepal.
- Jha, P.K. (1999). *Ecotourism. Nepal Nature's Paradise* (eds) T.C. Majupuria and Rohit Kumar. pp. 488-495
- Khanal, N.R. (1992). *Study of geo-hydrology, Land Use and Population of the Makalu Barun Conservation Project Area*. Kathmandu: Department of National Parks and Wildlife conservation and Woodland Mountain Institute.

- Koirela, Madan Prasad, (2002). *Environmental Determinants of the Livelihood Related Food Production System in Mid Himalayan Landscape (Tinjure-Milke Region)*, Unpublished phd Thesis, School of Environmental Science, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.
- Kunwar, Ramesh Raj, (2006). *Tourists and Tourism*. (Science and Industry Interface). Kathmandu: International School of Tourism and Hotel Management
- Mcintyre, George, (1993), *Sustainable Tourism Development Guide for Local Planners*, Madrid: World Tourism Organization.
- Milleville, R. de. (2002). *The Rhododendrons of Nepal*. Lalitpur: Himal Books.
- Neayupane G.P; *Assessing "Eco" in Eco-tourism in Nepal*, Banko Jankari No. 10 Vol.1.
- Nepal Tourism Board, (2001) *National Ecotourism Strategy and Marketing Programme of Nepal*. Kathmandu: NTB.
- Nepal Tourism Board, (2007). *Nepal Tourism Statistics 2007*. Kathmandu: NTB.
- Nirola, Subash (2003). *Towards Sustainable tourism: Nepali Steps in Fine Tune Sustainability: The Lasting Fuel*. (eds) R.K. Regmee. Pp 112-114, Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Pradhan , Pushkar k and Pradhan, Bandana, (2006). *Environment and Natural Resources: Concept, Methods, Planning and Management*, Kirtipur, Kathmandu: Quest Publication.
- Pradhanang, Dr. Surendra Bhakta (2002). *Village Tourism in Chitwan*. Delhi.
- Rokaya, Basanta, (2006). *Prospect of Eco-tourism in Upper Humla*, Unpublished Thesis, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Central Department of Rural Development, TU. Kirtipur.

- Shrestha, S.S. (2002). *Role of Village Tourism for Rural development in Nepal; a case study of Sirubari Villag*, Unpublished Thesis, Central Department of rural Development, TU.Kirtipur, Kathmandu.
- Upadhyay, Rudra Prasad, ed.(2008).*Reading in Rural tourism*.Kathmandu: Sunlight Publication.
- Whelan, T. (1991). *Nature Tourism:Managing for the Environment*. Washington, DC: Island Press,
- Ziffer, Karen A. (1989). *Eco-tourism: The Uneasy Alliance Conservation International*, Washington, DC.
- Zurick, D. (1992). *Advanture Travel and Sustainable Tourism in the Peripheral Economy of Nepal*. Annals of the Association of American Geographers

Annex 1

Observation Check List

S N	Subject of Observation	Type of Observation	Purpose of Observation
1	Transportation facilities Available in Basantapur, Chauki Guphapokhari, TMJ & Sabhapokhara Area.	Participatory observation	To observe the actual Condition of road & Transportation facility
2	Communication Facilities	Participatory & Non- participatory observation	To count total no of Telephone, internet, Post office, to see wheather There is TV, radio, Fm or not ?
3	Hotel and Lodges	Participatory & Non- participatory observation	To identify total no. of hotels, Condition, quality, service offered Price, capacity and income.
4	Driking water & sanition	Participatory observation	To identify the availability and Quality of water. To identify The sanitation and hygene.
5	Availability of food items	Participatory observation	To identify what are verities of food available int the hotels. From where local people bring food ? cost of food available.
6	Waste Management	Participatory	To identify the methods followed by

	problem	observation	local people for waste management. To find out the whether there was dumping site or not? To identify human excreta management system.
7	Toilet and Bathrooms	Participatory observation	To find out the types of toilet, total no of toilet and bathrooms
8	Energy Used	Participatory observation	To identify the sources of energy they used, cost and availability
9	Deforestation	Non-participatory observation	To identify the condition of deforestation. density of forest, forest area
10	Recreational facilities	Non-participatory observation	If there were any recreational facilities?
11	Skilled and Trained manpower	Non-participatory observation	To identify the no of skilled and trained employee working in hotels
12	Tourist information centre	Non-participatory observation	To know was there tourist information centre.
13	Shouvnier shoppes	Non-participatory observation	Number and types of shouvnier shop, shouvnier items available
14	Settlement Pattern	Participatory observation	To identify the settlement pattern. Agglomerated or dispersed settlement
15	Rhododendron forest	Participatory observation	To identify the density of rhododendron forest, types and species. Deispersion of rhododendron forest.
16	Lakes, ponds, water falls, sources of water	Participatory observation	To identify the total number of lakes and ponds. sources of water, Condition of such water sources.

17	Condition of grazing land	Participatory observation	Total area coverage by grazing land, income from it
18	Scenic Beauty	Participatory observation	
19	Cultural heritage	Non-participatory observation	To see the culture of local people, how many culture can be observed
20	Alternative energy uses	Non-participatory observation	Were local people using solar energy, microhydro, biobriquete etc
21	Total number of tourist arrived in The area	Non-participatory observation	To collect data form primary and secondary sources.
22	Activities of tourist in the destination	Participatory & Non-participatory observation	What kind of tourism activities were found ?
23	Other potential activities	Non-participatory observation	To identify other activities of tourist
24	Different threats of tourism	Non-participatory observation	Different problems created by tourism in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area.

Annex 2

List of Tourist Visited TMJ area in Chaitra and Baisakh 2066

S N	Name of Tourist	Sex	Country	Remarks
1	Mr. Aisumimorita	Male	Japan	
2	Ms. Katukamorita	Female	Japan	
3	Memittoka Hiradyashi	Female	Japan	
4	Ms. Mitsue Sato	Female	Japan	
5	Mr. Mutteo Horita	Male	Japan	
6	Brigit Hilderanot	Female	Germany	
7	Tamagau Wattidolei	Male	Japan	
8	Ota Sacbike	Female	Japan	
9	Tamagame Hideo	Female	Japan	
10	Kubota Hiromn	Male	Japan	
11	Mikosa Koron	Female	Japan	
12	Geraldiea Jory	Female	Malayshia	
13	Tan Joug Teck	Male	Malayshia	
14	Jean Hung Thiviergehone	Male	Canada	
15	Katharine Elizabethhowen	Male	UK	
16	Rowena Teastick	Female	Australia	
17	Germes Martiska	Female	Australia	
18	Christine Clarence	Male	Australia	
19	Salome Harris	Female	Australia	
20	Prineeds	Female	Japan	

Source:-Tourist record book of police security post Guphapokhari 2009

Annex 3

Prospects and Problems of Ecotourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area

Questionnaire

A) Personal Information

Name:-

Age:-

Sex:-

Permanent Address:-

Educational Qualification:-

Type of Respondent :-

i) Tourism Entrepreneur

ii) General Public

B) Subjective Information

- 1) Do you have information about Tinjure, Milke, Jaljala And Sabhapokhari Area?
 - a) I have Sufficient information
 - b) I have Few Information
 - c) No Information I have
- 2) What is the major Occupation of local people of TMJ and Sabhapokhari area?
 - a) Tourism Industry
 - b) Livestock raring
 - c) Agriculture
 - d) Herbs Farming
- 3) How many tourists visit this area every year?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
- 4) From which country tourist come to visit the TMJ area?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
- 5) What are the purposes of visit of the tourist?
 - a) Trekking
 - b) Tirtha_yatra
 - c) Study
 - d) Business
 - e) Others
- 6) What are the tourist activities conducted in the TMJ and Sabhapokhari area?
 - a)
 - b)
 - c)
 - d)
- 7) Which is the major tourism product of the TMJ area?
 - a) Rhododendron forest
 - b) Bio-diversity
 - c) Sabhapokhari
 - d) Natural beauty
 - e) Culture
 - f) Mount Kanchanjunga
 - g) Climatic Diversity

- 21) From which district domestic tourist comes?
 a) b) c) d)
- 22) Are there any effects of tourism on environment you have seen?
 a) Yes b) No c) I do not know
- 23) What are the positive impacts of tourism?
 a) Increase employment opportunities
 b) Bust up the economy
 c) other
- 24) What are the negative impacts of tourism?
 a)
 b)
 c)
- 25) Do the tourist carry back the waste they carried?
 a) Yes b) No
- 26) How are you managing your solid waste?
 a) Incineration b) Dumping c) Composting d) Other
- 27) Do you have toilets in your hotel?
 a) Yes b) No
- 28) Which type of toilet you have?
 a) Simple pit latrine
 b) Water seal latrine
 c) Safety tank
- 29) What are the types of fuel you are using now?
 a) Fuel wood b) Kerosene c) LPG d) Bio-gas
 e) Electricity
- 30) Which is the major source of fuel of TMJ area?
 a) Fuel Wood b) Fossil fuel c) Alternative sources of fuel
- 31) Which tree is the major source of fuel wood?
 a) Rhododendron b) Pine wood c) Uttish d) Others
- 32) How do you collect fuel wood?
 a) Community forest b) From your farm c) Buy

- 33) What is the condition of rhododendron forest?
- a) Rhododendron forest is being dense
 - b) Rhododendron forest is being deforested
- 34) If deforestation is increasing, what are the causes?
- a) Lack of awareness b) Scarcity of Fuel wood c).....
- 34) Are there any activities conducted for reforestation?
- a) Yes b) No
- 35) If Yes, What are they?
- a) Plantation
 - b) Fencing
 - c) Others
- 36) Are there any I/NGOs supporting for environmental protection of the TMJ area?
- a) Yes b) No
- 37) If yes, which I/NGOs is supporting now?
- a) b)
- 38) What are basic physical facilities required for the tourist?
- a) Accommodation b) Food and beverage c) Toilet & Bathroom
 - d) Transportation e) Communication f) Drinking water
 - g) All of the above
- 39) Which of the following physical facilities are lacking?
- a) Accommodation b) Food and beverage c) Toilet & Bathroom
 - d) Transportation e) Communication f) Drinking water
 - g) Tourist information centre h) Security post
 - i) Health care centre j) All of the above
- 40) What activities are conducted for the tourism promotion in TMJ area?
- a) Advertisement and Publicity
 - b) Awareness and training for locals
 - c) Construction of road
 - d) Establishment of Security post
 - e) Establishment of tourism development committee.
- 41) What is your role in community forestry?
- a) As user b) As protector c) Both

- 42) Who are involving in tourism promotion in TMJ and sabhapokhari area?
- a) Local
 - b) I/NGOs
 - c) Arun Valley Cultural Group
 - d) Nepal government
 - e) Tour Operators
- 43) Are the current activities sufficient for tourism promotion?
- a) Yes
 - b) Not Sufficient
- 44) What further activities are necessary for the further promotion of tourism in TMJ and Sabhapokhari area?
- a)
 - b)
 - c)
- 45) Is your level of income is affected by tourism?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
- 46) Is the local culture affected by tourism?
- a) Yes
 - b) No
 - c) I do not know

Annex 4

S N	Name of Person	Address	Involvement
1	Man Bahadur Limbu	Sankhuwasabha	TEF
2	Rajkumar Chaudhary	Saptari	ASI (local police post) guphapokhari
3	Ganesh Chaudhary	Tunlingtar	Police (Tumlingtar police post)
4	Kamal Bahadur Khatri	Sankhuwasabha	Arun Valley cultural Group
5	Hari Bahadur Khatri	Sankhuwasabha	Arun Valley cultural Group
6	Ganga Bista	Sankhuwasabha	Sankhuwasabha Tourism Development Centre
7	Tashi Bhote	Guphapokhari	Hotelers
8			

Annex 5

Photos of field survey



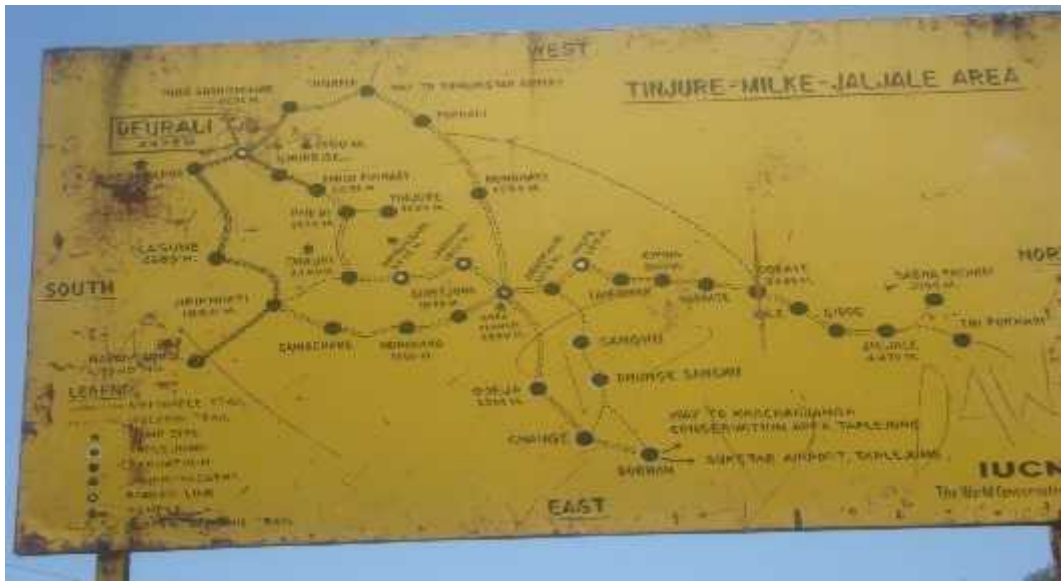
Fuelwood excreted from Local forest in Basantapur



Tourism Development Centr



Way to TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area under Construction



Map of TMJ and Sabhapokhari Area



Photo of flowering Rhododendron near Basantapur



Rhododendron Forest Destroyed by Road near Chauki



Guphapokhari Natural Pond



Mencham Danda Hill near Guphapokhari



Animal as means of Transportation



House made by Bamboo