

CHAPTER - I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Nepal is a small country with an area of 147,181 sq. km. that accounts only 0.03 percent of the total land area of the globe (Bhattarai,2012), but it compasses a wide range of site and sound within its narrow confine as well as multi-diversity of touristic resources. These resources that Nepal has to offer include both natural and cultural features, which are distributed in different parts of the country. This country is renowned for its physiographic and eco-climatic variations, Himalayan ranges, natural beauty, protected areas, rich bio-diversity, spectacular landscape, extraordinary cultural heritage and mosaic of ethnic diversity (Bhattarai, 2012).

These resources are the major attractions for the foundation and acceleration of tourism industry in Nepal. Therefore, it is necessary to manage these tourism resources properly by mobilizing the local participation with sufficient considerations on the quality of supply side of tourism in order to attract the maximum number of tourists from different parts of the world. It is also pertinent to expose these tourism resources widely with their typical characteristics to the outside world for the development of quality tourism in Nepal.

In 1973 the National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act was promulgated and in 1976 the Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve was officially established. According to a National Park and Wildlife Conservation Act 1973, a National Park is defined as an area set aside for the conservation and management of the natural environment including flora and fauna and landscapes. It is primarily intended to protect sites, landscapes/geological formations and scientific or aesthetic values, together with their associated flora and fauna.

There is very high dependency and pressure on natural resources mainly on forest and wetlands. People are fully dependent on forest product for firewood, building materials, fodder and grass (Bhandari, 2000). Forest resources are considered as the most important natural resource for people livelihood and for the maintenance of

ecological balance. Forest resources are the second largest resource after water resource of Nepal (Dahal, 2003). However, forest resources are generating employment and income through timber, tourism, vegetation and also it is used in infrastructure development.

Tourism development commonly has been advocated as an alternative to traditional natural resource-based economic development, such as timber production, agriculture, and mining. Recently, many advocates of tourism have promoted seemingly new tourism concepts, such as nature-based tourism, ecotourism, and sustainable tourism, among others. These new forms of tourism are promoted as an environmentally safe way for rural communities to generate income from natural resources. They are advocated particularly in developing countries because many developing countries possess a comparative advantage over developed countries in their ability to provide relatively pristine natural settings. Affluence, education, and environmentalism all contribute to increasing visitation to wild lands and generate income for local communities through the expenditures of tourists such as lodging, transportation, food, guides, and souvenirs. Demand for these new forms of tourism, it is argued, arises from increased concern or interest in unique and fragile ecosystems and a growing desire to travel to new and exotic places, and an increasing number of people who have the financial means to do so.

With the enactment of the 1973 National Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act, Nepal joined other nations in the cause of biodiversity conservation by establishing 16 protected areas that include nine national parks, three wildlife reserves, one hunting reserve and three conservation areas. Buffer zones have been declared in the 11 protected areas where local communities are empowered to manage their own resources (Forest Act, 1993).

Suklaphanta Wildlife reserve is one of the famous national parks in Nepal after Chitwan and Bardia National park. Area of Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve is 305 sq. km and Established 1976. Location of Royal Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve is situated in the southern Terai of Far-Western Nepal. This situated in the southern part of Far-West Nepal in Kanchanpur District. The reserve lies between 80° 25' east longitude and 28° 35' north latitude. It also has a large lake and the Bahini River flows through the park. The park also has over 300 species of birds and most of the tourists who

make the trip here are keen bird watchers. Reptiles include gharial and mugger crocodiles, Indian python, cobras, kraits, rat snakes and monitor lizards (Resource Profile, 2004)

One third of the total area of the reserve is grassland and two third are covered by forest (Resource Profile, 2004). The major tree species include Terminalia balerica, Adina Cardifolia, Bombax Ceiba etc. are found along the rivers (Adhikari, 1998).The grasslands of the reserve is the prime habitat of the swamp deer (Resource Profile, 2004). This reserve is also famous for wild elephants, Panthera Tigers. Spotted Deer, Barking Deer, Blue Bull and Wild Boar are found in SWR. Wetlands such as Rani Tal, Solagaudi Tal, Kalikich Lake, Tara Tal and Lalpani Tal provide suitable habitats for waterfowl and reptiles. 268 birds species have been recorded (Resource Profile, 2004).

The conservation of natural resources has multiple economic benefits to the county and its people. Ecotourism is globally the fastest growing and most profitable segment of the tourist industry. Estimates suggest that the tourism revenue from habitats rich in biodiversity are still under priced but has great potential.

Tourist development expanded rapidly after World War II. It can be regarded as one of the contributing area for the economic development of developing country. The sustainable tourism development can be achieved through maintaining a balance of an economic, social and environmental approach. Cost benefit analysis, carrying capacity and limits of acceptable change have been established using the Delphi technique (Park People Program, 2001).

It is necessary to maintain the ecological balance between tourism activity and the integrity of the natural/socio- cultural sites in order to enhance the eco-tourism development in the country. That will certainly support the welfare of community life, especially for those who are below the poverty line. In recent years, growing awareness among tourism researchers of the relations between tourism and natural resource management has resulted in a substantial body of academic literature examining tourism issues under a relatively new set of tourism concepts. Seemingly new forms of tourism, such as nature-based tourism, ecotourism, and sustainable

tourism, now are advocated as an environmentally safe basis for economic development in many rural locations worldwide.

Much tourism depends on the environment at the destination of tourists. Such environments may be natural, cultural, or partly man-made and partly natural. In fact, few tourist destinations involve completely natural environments. For example, the environments of most national parks are to some extent human modified, for instance by access roads, walking tracks, built facilities such as toilets, picnic tables and camping areas (often near entry points) and so on.

Tourism, defined by the UNWTO as “the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environments for more than 24 hours and not more than one consecutive year for business, leisure and other purposes” (UNWTO, 1995), has undergone several changes during the last centuries. Once a privilege for the rich nowadays leisure tourism is accessible to a large part of the population. Domestic tourism in particular is growing rapidly in Nepal. Tourism markets are gaining in importance. Wildlife tourism is such a niche market and is worldwide one of the fastest-growing ones.

Tourism and nature conservation are strongly interrelated. Although wildlife conservation exists independently from tourism, several case studies show that wildlife tourism strongly influences wildlife and the conservation of wildlife. In some regions wildlife conservation could even not function without the financial support of wildlife tourism. Tourism is dependent on nature conservation as intact nature and wildlife are an important resource for tourism. Nature conservation ensures the maintenance of natural areas, which are of major importance for the tourism industry – coastal areas, mountains and wetlands for example are popular tourism attractions. Wildlife conservation ensures the survival of wildlife species, which are the foundation for wildlife tourism. Wildlife – as the resource of both wildlife tourism and conservation – is thus the key link between wildlife tourism and conservation.

As wildlife tourism is often concentrated around sensitive areas that are also important for conservation, long-term sustainability of this industry is critical. Case studies from countries all over the world show that wildlife tourism can provide benefits, but at the same time, can be a threat to wildlife conservation, when not

properly managed. Yet, the documentation of impacts of tourism on wildlife has concentrated upon exotic animals and little attention has been directed to the effects of tourism on Suklaphata wildlife. This thesis therefore aims to analyze Suklaphata's wildlife tourism potential.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Aspect of tourism is an important issue with regard to the economic effects of the park. The unique heritage of Nepal is of considerable value for the tourism industry. If it is properly managed, it contributes to the national income. Tourism demand needs to protect the quality and integrity of heritage site as well as to protect that living heritage item reflects the detail of Nepali culture. Folk music, folk dance and Thangka painting are those living heritage items that foster the tourism market (Dhital, 2003). It is economic reward that provides the impetus for the development of eco-tourism and alternative tourism.

A total of 790,118 tourists visited Nepal in the period between mid- January 2014 and mid-January 2015. This figure is less by 0.9 percent than in the corresponding period of last year. Similarly, the length of stay for tourists who visited Nepal during this period averaged 12.4 days. Expected gain could be obtained from tourism sector if the number of tourists and their per capita expenditure could be increased with their average length of stay extended (MOF, 2014).

The purpose of visit of visitors in Nepal is for holiday pleasure, pilgrimage, trekking and mountaineering, business and other purposes. For the holiday pleasure the visitors are 410,934 in number. The revenue from tourism is US\$ 429216000 and average revenue from the visitors is US\$ 42.8 (MOF, 2014).

It is necessary to develop Nepal as an attractive, recreational, and safe tourist destination in the world map by preserving and promoting natural, cultural, biological, as well as man-made heritages of Nepal. In order to contribute to the economy through development and expansion of the tourism sector, tourism activities needs to be expanded; quality of services provided to tourists be improved; foreign currency earnings from tourism augmented and employment opportunities should be raised.

Though large numbers of tourists visit in Nepal, among them very few visitors have visited in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. The research is not contributed broadly in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. In spite of benefits from tourism sector, due to various obstacles, tourism sector has not been fully developed in this area and people in this area have not become able to take maximum benefit from tourism sector.

In this way, although there is great potentiality of tourism development and economic development in SWR, there are some obstacles which are hindering to it. If the prevailing obstacles are removed than tourism sector can flourish in the area of SWR and it can get economically strong as well. This research aims to answer the following questions:

- a) What is the trend and pattern of tourist flow in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve?
- b) What is the flow of tourists in SWR with respect to other conservation areas?
- c) What is the economic contribution of tourists in the community around Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve?
- d) What are the attractive places in SWR?
- e) What are the problems of tourism in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve?
- f) What is the benefits and problems from SWR to near households?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the study is to find the contribution of tourism in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. The specific objectives of the study are as below.

- a) To find the trend and pattern of tourist flow in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve.
- b) To know the flow of tourists in SWR with respect to other conservation areas of Nepal.
- c) To study the contribution of income by tourists in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve.
- d) To find out the attractive places in the SWR for visitors.

- e) To examine the problems faced by tourism business in the community around Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve area.
- f) To examine the benefits and problems from SWR for nearby households.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The research was conducted in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve which is located at Kanchanpur district. This research will help to identify the level of income generation through tourists; to identify the problems faced by the tourism business; importance of wildlife reserve for tourism industry and trend of tourist flow by nationality in different seasons. This study is beneficial for administration of Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and tourism industry as it will help them to explore the ways of increasing the number of tourists in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and to find out the tourist season. The study is the useful guideline for wildlife reserve administration and tourism business to interact in the problems, prospects in the tourism business in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve area. This study is also useful for researcher in the related fields.

1.5 Limitations of the Study

This study is having the following limitations:

- a) This study is limited to the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and its surrounding area.
- b) The expenses of the tourists are included only from Dhangadi if tourists are from western part and from Mahendranagar if tourists are from eastern part of the research area.
- c) Only simple statistical tools have been used.
- d) As an academic study, it is limited to time and resources.

1.6 Organization of the Study

The study is organized in five different chapters.

The first chapter is Introduction chapter. It starts with introduction under which the study outlines the background, statement of the problem, objective of the study, rationale of the study, limitation of the study and organization of the study.

The second chapter is the Review of Literature which consists of review of theoretical as well as empirical aspect of tourism.

The third chapter outlines the research methodology which consists of research design, selection of study area, types and nature of data, method of data collection, tools of data collection and presentation and method of data analysis.

The fourth chapter is the part of data analysis and the result and discussion.

The last chapter consists of summary, conclusion and recommendation.

CHAPTER - II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter of study includes the review of relevant literature available. The theoretical review is followed by empirical review of international and national context.

2.1 Theoretical Review

World National Parks Conference at Bali in 1982 focused on the relationship between protected areas and human needs and stressed the relevance of integrating protected areas with other major development issues (Adhikari, 1998). The message is that the protected areas should respond to the needs of local people. The involvement of local people in the management of the protected areas for mutual benefits is widely accepted today (Sharma, 1991).

National parks and reserves in Nepal play a very important part in the development of wilderness oriented tourist industry based on the non-consumptive use of natural resources (Majupuria, 1998). But the promised benefits of the tourism have not materialized. The economic benefits have failed to speed to those hardest hit by the establishment of the park. Tourism has grown to become diverse and complex. Third World communities are economically and culturally subordinated to the culture and wealth of the first world. The effect of the tourism upon the local culture is also another part of relationship. The effect can be realized in both ways. Tourism enables tourists to enjoy a way of life, which Nepali people have enjoyed, and at the same time tourist activity might have the effect on the local culture. However, tourist is not to be seen as an active force threatening a passive local culture (Dhital, 2000).

National parks and reserves create avenue to sustainable development. Their establishment is inextricably linked with the concept of economic development. National development objectives are always aware of the decentralization of economic policies as well as resources. It is essential that the priority should be given to the sustainable management of natural resources by preserving them for the future and fulfilling local people present needs as well. Firewood, fodder, leaf litters are the

types of products connected directly to the daily necessities of general people in the agricultural rural Nepal (Dhital, 2000). Natural resource as a part of wealth of nation embodies economic significance ever since the time of Adam Smith when he implied economic development in connection to diminishing return and stationary state (Dhital, 2000).

Wildlife tourism, which is either wildlife-dependent or wildlife-independent, is increasingly becoming a popular recreational pursuit. Wildlife tourism can also be categorized as either consumptive or non-consumptive depending on the recreational motives of visitors and the level of visitor-wildlife interactions. The impacts of wildlife tourism and measures to minimize visitor's impact on wild species and their habitats are discussed from a geographical perspective. Managing tourism impacts involves an understanding of the spatial requirements of wild species and the limits that tourists have to impose on themselves in their pursuit for an enjoyable wildlife encounter (Corazon, 2000).

If carried out responsibly, ecotourism can be a valuable means for promoting the socio-economic development of host communities while generating resources for the preservation of natural and cultural assets. In this way, ecologically fragile areas can be protected with the financial returns of ecotourism activities made by both the public and private sectors. In many developing countries, ecotourism has been particularly successful in attracting private investments for the establishment of privately owned natural parks and nature reserves. Many of such reserves are well-managed, self-financed and environmentally responsible, even when profit remains the main motivation behind the operation of a private reserve. In this way, the tourism industry can help to protect and even rehabilitate natural assets, and thus contribute to the preservation of biological diversity and ecological balance (Chaudhary, 2001).

Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve was established initially for hunting purpose for the ruling class. But nowadays its objective is changed which is nature conservation and tourism development.

According to Dhital, 2003 the economic effect of the park has been divided in to local and national level. The local effect includes those issues that create immediate impact

of the park upon the way life of the adjoining people surrounding the national park. The national effects consist of the prospect of sustainable tourism in the park.

He farther says, Tourism is expected to resume its rapid growth in the future because of improved living standards, rising incomes and amounts of free time, the falling real cost of travel, and improved transportation around the world. This growth can be harnessed not only for the enjoyment of tourists themselves but, more importantly, for maximizing economic benefits and thus increasing the living standards of host communities and countries. At the same time, it is bound to have negative environmental and socio-cultural impact on those communities, whose involvement in tourism planning, development and management can be crucial to minimizing the impact. The major challenge for the international community is, therefore, not only to minimize the negative impact of tourism but also to ensure that the economic benefits of tourism can contribute to environmental protection and the sustainable use of natural resources.

Other researchers suggest that although new concepts such as ecotourism may not represent an abrupt shift from traditional recreation and tourism, they do represent a change in the level of visitation to natural areas and a change in the goals that various stakeholders attach to visitation. In particular, tourists increasingly demand vacations that are challenging and educational. Community planners and other local officials increasingly view natural areas as potential sources of tourism revenue that can offset economic declines in other natural resource sectors and contribute to the protection of natural areas themselves. Because the precise meanings of new tourism concepts can be somewhat ambiguous, analysts conducting applied tourism research must adapt new tourism concepts to the specific environmental, social, and cultural constraints (Sharma, 2001).

Tourism and nature conservation are strongly interrelated: Although wildlife conservation exists independently from tourism, several case studies show that wildlife tourism strongly influences wildlife and the conservation of wildlife. In some regions wildlife conservation could even not function without the financial support of wildlife tourism. Tourism is dependent on nature conservation as intact nature and wildlife are an important resource for tourism. Nature conservation ensures the maintenance of natural areas, which are of major importance for the tourism industry

coastal areas; mountains and wetlands for example are popular tourism attractions. Wildlife conservation ensures the survival of wildlife species, which are the foundation for wildlife tourism. Wildlife as the resource of both wildlife tourism and conservation is thus the key link between wildlife tourism and conservation (Poudel, 2007).

"However, if not properly planned, managed and monitored, the concept of ecotourism can be distorted for purely commercial purposes and even for promoting ecologically-damaging activities by large numbers of tourists in natural areas. Given their inadequate physical infrastructure and limited capacity to absorb mass tourism, the fragile land and ocean ecosystems of many developing countries can be literally overwhelmed by large numbers of tourists. It is increasingly recognized, therefore, that unsustainable ecotourism activities may threaten the very natural environment upon which they depend. There is, in fact, a crucial distinction between ecotourism and sustainable tourism: while the former can be broadly defined as an alternative, nature-based type of tourism" (Poudel, 2009).

Increasingly, terms such as nature-based tourism, ecotourism, and sustainable tourism, among others, have been used by tourism researchers to characterize specific types of tourism and to qualify specific ranges of tourism-related issues. Several studies devote significant attention to defining these different tourism concepts and their implications in relation to tourism. At times, the terms nature-based tourism, ecotourism, and sustainable tourism seem to be used almost interchangeably. Other less commonly used terms include green tourism and alternative tourism. Among many researchers, however, each term implies a specific concept motivated by concern about the environmental, social, and cultural impacts of tourism.

Aspect of tourism is an important issue with regard to the economic effect of the park. The unique heritage of Nepal is of considerable value for the tourist industry. If it is properly managed, it contributes to the national income, otherwise a decline of the heritage value. Tourism demand needs to protect the quality and integrity of heritage site as well as to protect those living heritage items that reflect the details of Nepali culture. Folk music, folk dance and Thangka painting are those living heritage items that foster the tourist market (NTB, 2011).

Tourism is one of the potential sectors for the economic development of Nepal. Being a labor intensive service sector, it might be the major source of employment in both urban and rural areas and will help to reduce poverty level in the country. Nepal has initiated various activities for tourism promotion in international as well as domestic market. The country has celebrated “Nepal Tourism Year 2011”, “Visit Lumbini Year 2012”, and “Everest Diamond jubilee 2013”. Tourism statistics is an essential element for placating and the development of tourism activities (Tourism Stat, 2013).

2.2 Review of International Empirical Study

Asian countries have been among the world's leaders in adopting legislation and ratifying international conventions for biodiversity conservation. They have devoted substantial resources to habitat conservation and to enforcement of anti-poaching legislation. Despite the governmental investments, south Asia faces daunting challenges that are growing more severe. Habitat fragmentation and poaching for illegal wildlife trade are the most significant threats to biodiversity. With South Asia's rich biodiversity, wildlife is a lucrative target of the trade. Victims of the trade are many and varied and include the iconic tiger and elephant, snow leopard, common leopard, one horn rhino, pangolin, brown bear, several species of deer and reptiles, seahorses, star tortoises, butterflies, peacocks, hornbills, parrots, parakeets and birds of prey, and corals.

Freese, (1996) has studied about the benefits from wildlife tourism. The main objective of the study is to find out the benefits from the wildlife tourism. According to him it can be both tangible and intangible. The study found the economic benefits from nature-based tourism, in general, are considerable. It creates employment and supports secondary commercial industry. Wildlife hunting (in the form of recreational fishing, recreational hunting, and trophy hunting) generates income from admission permits and hunting/fishing fees, from sales of hunting/fishing gears, and from hiring fees of boats and land vehicles. Non-consumptive wildlife tourism also generates income from park fees, admission fees, leases, services, sale of materials, and other tourism-related entrepreneurs.

Anderson (1994) has studied the community involvement for the tourism development desired. The objective of his study is the development of tourism where

community is involved in this sector. The finding of his study is community involvement can be impeded by disagreement over the level or type of tourism development desired. It can be difficult to discern whether tourism development is an appropriate alternative to other types of economic development in different locations. A potential problem of basing a local economy on tourism is that tourism injects money into the economy without producing more goods for people to consume. This can result in local price inflation, which is worsened by the presence of tourists who increase demand. For many communities, tourism will have a limited growth potential. Economic activity based on tourism and recreation can suffer significant seasonal variability. Ecotourism is subject to fluctuations owing to ups and downs in the trendiness of given destinations and modes of travel. Local residents also may face significant opportunity costs associated with restrictions on local resource use, whereas the benefits of protection may not be readily apparent. Tourism should be viewed as part of an overall economic and environmental plan that includes other industries.

Wall (1994), suggests that ecotourism is characteristic of the early stages of the tourism life cycle. Ecotourism relies on a place to look and feel pristine, but once a place is “spoiled,” the ecotourism industry must search for the next undiscovered and pristine landscape or culture. The study found the effects, ecotourism acts against the goals of ecotourism. The life cycle implies that carrying capacity is exceeded when visitation increases to the extent that a shift from ecotourism to general tourists occurs. For some ecotourism advocates, sustainability issues arise from concern that destinations will evolve into these later stages. More cynical observers suggest that economic incentives to develop are too great for any tourist destination to remain undeveloped for long. As destinations become crowded or degraded because of increased visitation and human encroachment, supply is reduced until new destinations become available.

The term ecotourism has been used as far back as 1965. Gossling (1999) has suggested that nature-based tourism is derived from the existence of natural areas with no specific concern for their protection, whereas ecotourism is concerned with the protection of natural areas. Gossling advocates ecotourism as a means to achieve rural economic development by enabling people who live in rural areas to capture the

economic non-use values derived from natural areas. Typical services offered at ecotourism destinations might include local arts and crafts, guided hikes and wildlife viewing, publications, natural history lectures, photography, and local food. Revenues are generated from fees for these services, as well as natural area user fees and local expenditures for hotels, restaurants and bars, and transportation services.

Some writers qualify ecotourism even more specifically, suggesting that it also must provide direct revenue toward the conservation or protection of natural areas and educate tourists about related environmental issues. The Ecotourism Society defines ecotourism as “travel to natural areas to understand the cultural and natural history of the environment, taking care not to alter the integrity of the ecosystem, while producing opportunities that make the conservation of the natural resources beneficial to local citizens”.

Orams (1995) argues that ecotourism must provide more than mere enjoyment; it must foster changes in the attitudes and behavior of tourists about the protection of natural resources.

In the view of some researchers, the tourism industry itself is exploitative and degrading to natural resources as well as indigenous people and cultures. According to this view, the development of tourism is what must be controlled to sustain natural resources and cultural attributes on which tourism depends. This view of sustainable tourism, as Orams (1995) notes, arises from dissatisfaction with present principles and practices of the tourism industry as a whole.

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WTO, (2006) presented that tourism industry in Africa enjoyed annual market share growth of 10 percent in 2006. Using a panel data of 42 African countries for the years that span from 1995 to 2004, the study explored the potential contribution of tourism to Economic Growth and Development within the conventional neoclassical framework. The results showed that the receipts from tourism Industry significantly contributed both to the current level of GDP and the economic growth of sub-Saharan African countries as do investments in physical and human capital. The findings implied that African Economies could enhance short run economic growth by strategically strengthening the tourism industries.

2.3 Review of National Empirical Study

Sharma, (1991) studied the socioeconomic factor in tourism development. The study found that for local communities, however, a significant socioeconomic factor in tourism development is the proportion of tourism income that can be captured by the local economy. Such income is generated through employment in tourism-related services such as food and lodging, gasoline, local tour guiding, and sale of souvenir and outdoor recreation equipment. Charging access fees to public lands potentially reduces visitation and can result in adverse economic impacts to local communities where access to public lands is a primary attraction. User surveys incorporating contingent valuation, travel cost, or other methods could be used to provide information about the impact of fees on rates of visitation. Such studies could be combined with economic impact assessments within local communities to describe different fee levels in terms of potential local economic impacts.

Sharma, (1992) studied about the tourism management program. The objective of the study was careful balance between ecology, local livelihood needs and visitor's satisfaction. The tourism management program aims to carefully balance between ecology, local livelihood needs and visitors' satisfaction. The program gives high priority to reduce the negative impacts of tourism and enhance the positive impact. For this, visitors' information centers and tourism check posts and eco-museums are managed with different exhibits and information related to different things, creating awareness on the minimum impact code for visitors, preparation of audio-visuals, sign posting and tourism related awareness camp conduction are some of the activities of

this program. At local level, capacity enhancement of local people in managing tourism and tourism enterprise development activities are conducted.

Adhikari, (1998) has studied on the issues on regular development and maintenance of trekking trails under ecotourism program. The study found that under eco-tourism program, trekking trails are developed and maintained regularly; sign posts are erected on various routes to make the visitors aware that they are in an ecologically fragile area. The local people are made aware of tourism potentials through awareness camps and exposure tours. Tourism catering skill trainings are given to locals so that they can earn income from tourism activities. To manage waste, dumping pits and rubbish bins are placed at regular intervals.

In most of the protected areas system management strategies that are critical for resolving the pressing problems relate to the poor economic condition of surrounding areas, the empowerment of women, the population's extreme poverty, poor breeds of cattle, crop damage by wildlife, fuel wood alternatives, lack of forest in the buffer zone, non-timber forest products, eco-tourism and the wetlands.

Dhital, (2000) studied the Economic Effects of Chitwan National Park by using the case study of Chitwan National Park. The study found that by the establishment of national park the local people have sacrificed many things. The people are sacrificing the large amount of opportunity cost in terms of crop production. According to him the effects created by the park are shortage of grazing land, human life and crop damage by the wildlife, effects on health and education, effects on cultural attitudes. Of all the effects the reduction in livestock rising is the most significant and the immediate spillover effect of the park on the local level.

Chattarjee, (2008) in a study has studied the relationship between relationship between tourism and natural resource management. According to Chattarjee, (2008), in recent years growing awareness among tourism researchers of the relations between tourism and natural resource management has resulted in a substantial body of academic literature examining tourism issues under a relatively new set of tourism concepts. The research found the new forms of tourism, such as nature-based tourism, ecotourism, and sustainable tourism, now are advocated as an environmentally safe basis for economic development in many rural locations worldwide. New forms of

tourism are closely related to outdoor recreation, which has been a management objective of National Forests since their inception.

Phulara (2009), using both primary and secondary source of data collection concluded that tourism is one of the significant contributors in the sector of Nepalese economy. The author further concluded that in spite of highly potentiality of tourism development in all development regions and their ecological regions, tourism in Nepal is especially centralized in the eastern and in the central part of the country. In Kathmandu, Pokhara, Annapurna region and Mt. Everest and in other different areas of the country, serious environmental damage has been caused. This situation has also been created in some of the valuable and sensitive touristic resources and cultural and natural landscape of Nepal. Thus, the author in the end has concluded that both the natural and cultural diversity of these areas are at risk and also their potentialities are at risk.

CHAPTER - III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter of the study includes the methodology that is used for the purpose of the research analysis. The research study uses various methodologies which are listed under following headings:

3.1 Research Design:

This study was conducted on the basis of descriptive research design in the study area. Descriptive in the sense that, researcher has carefully tried to record all the observed events from the study area and describe it faithfully as possible. The research design for this study is such that to study and find the problems faced by the tourists, businessman and households who are near the reserve. Mainly the data analysis has been made extensively as per the nature of the topic. This study is exploratory because in study area where very little prior knowledge or information is available on the subject under investigation. The study is descriptive in nature, as both qualitative and quantitative information has been used extensively. However, main focus of analysis is based on qualitatively feature.

3.2 Selection of Study Area

Based on the nature of the study, the SWR has been selected for the study. Majhgaun VDC and Jhalari Municipality of Kanchanpur district has been selected where majority of the visitors, hotel/lodges and beneficiary people lives.

The park is situated at Southern- Western part of the Kanchanpur district. Most of the adjoining villages are situated at Northern part of the park. Towards East of the wildlife reserve, Jhalari Municipality is situated; Pipariya VDC is situated at the Western part of the park. In the same way, at the Northern part of the reserve there is Majhgaun VDC where main administration office is located and tourist's entrance also held from the place. Majhgaun is about 15 km from Mahendranagar (headquarter of Kanchanpur). At the Southern part of the park, there is Jhilmila VDC.

The household survey area is at Jhalari and Majhgaun where most of the affected people are living. In the same way, visitors' survey has been conducted to all the

visitors to estimate the demand for the visiting sites of the reserve. Majgaun has been chosen as the visitor's survey area. It is in the general practice that tourist coming to the wildlife reserve; their entry is conducted from the Majgaun. Structured questionnaire has been prepared and administrated to the visitors, frequently to reserve their choice to visit Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve. In the same way the hotel/lodge survey area is conducted to the part of Majhgaun and Mahendranagar where most of the visitors lives during the visiting time. This survey has been undertaken during 2014.

3.3 Types and Nature of data

The data and information have been collected from both primary and secondary sources.

3.3.1 Primary Sources

Data and information are collected through the field visit. Primary sources like questionnaire and interview are used in order to collect data. Visitors, Hotel/lodge owners and local people have been interviewed through the medium of structured questionnaires. Based on the structured questionnaire 50 tourists, 10 businessman and 50 households are taken as a sample.

3.3.2 Secondary Sources

The secondary data and information are collected from different related books, journal, Ministry of Finance, Nepal Tourism Board, yearly journals published from Department of National Parks and Wildlife conservation, administration of Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, tourism related association and so on.

3.4 Methods of Data Collection

3.4.1 Method of Primary Data Collection

Primary data is gathered by the researcher expressly to solve the problem under consideration. Such data have not been previously collected or assembled for any other known projects. The primary data is collected through interview schedule, observation, focus group discussions.

3.4.1.1 Sampling

A simple random sampling technique was used to sample the 50 visitors, 10 hotel/lodge owners and 50 household members. The tourists were sampled by meeting them in field visits randomly. The tourists were taken as a sample to know the attractive places in SWR area and also the problems faced by tourists during their visit. In the same way all the three hotel/lodges were selected from the surrounding of Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and rest of others were selected by lottery method from Mahendranagar. The hotel/lodge was taken as a sample to know problems faced by business. Likewise 50 members of household were selected by purposive random sampling method. The HH members were taken as a sample to examine the benefits and problems from SWR for them.

3.4.2 Methods of Secondary data Collection

Secondary data were collected from relevant journals, Ministry of Finance, document study, administration of SWR, tourism board and so on.

3.5 Tools of Data Collection

For the purpose of the study, the researcher has used the following tools and techniques to collect data.

3.5.1 Visitor survey Sampling:

Visitor survey has been conducted through a designed questionnaire to collect the information needed to estimate the expenditure and the demand for the park visit by the tourists. This questionnaire is designed in Appendix A. The factors such as age, sex, nationality, income, education, occupation that determined the demand are taken into consideration. They are likely to explain the choice or the taste of the visitors visiting the national park. For the interview, 50 visitors from different countries have been selected purposively at random.

3.5.2 Hotel/lodge survey Sampling:

Hotel/lodge survey also has been conducted through a designed questionnaire to collect the information needed to estimate the demand of the businessman. This

questionnaire is designed in Appendix B. The survey estimates the problems in their business and their support in the economy. For the interview, 4 hotels from the Majhgaun and 6 hotels from Mahendranagar are taken randomly.

3.5.3 Household Survey Sampling

Household survey has been conducted to collect the information on the local economic effects of the park classified in the objective of the study. This questionnaire is designed in Appendix C for the interview of the selected Household. It incorporates the information required to estimate the issues of economic support and loss from the reserve and their attitude towards wildlife reserve. For the survey 50 households are chosen from the Majhgaun and Jhalari.

3.5.4 Interview Schedule

A set of autotype of nature questions has been printed for the respondents. They are printed in Nepali so that the respondents feel ease to answer. The total interview from tourists is 50, Hotel/lodge owners are 10 and Household interviews are 50. They are encouraged to verbalize the reasons for their particular choice, or any other comments, opinions that they may have. The questionnaire is mainly be related with eco- tourism, status of business and status of conflict between wildlife and households.

In order to obtain quantitative data, which has no fixed parameter, key informants interview method is used. This is done for cross checking the information obtained from different key informants in order to make high degree of accuracy in the study.

3.5.5 Focus Group Discussion

The focus group discussion held by making a group of local people, tourists and tourism related businessman in the related area of reserve. This was conducted by preparing a checklist to discuss and the summary has been noted which is used to analyze the analytical part of the study. The total focus group discussions are 2 from tourists and 3 from household members.

3.6 Presentation and Methods of Data Analysis

After collecting various data, the data were manually processed with simple tabulation which is collection of the various questionnaires. Tourists' expenditure, people's earnings, employment generation from various hotels/lodge, tourists' demand on wildlife reserve area is descriptively analyzed. Information are obtained from these various sectors i.e. expenditure of tourists, earnings of HH from tourism, problems and prospects of tourism in the area is simply analyzed. Most of the data are collected and tabulated with simple percentage.

CHAPTER- IV

FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS OF DATA

The empirical analysis of the study concentrates on the tourism which is determined by the natural resources i.e. development of tourism which is depended on the natural resources especially forest conservation areas of Nepal. The analysis also considers that the problems and prospects of the tourism when the natural resources are systematized and how is its contribution for generating employment and income of the local people.

The household survey, visitor survey and hotels/lodge survey are the main sources of data for the analysis. The household survey has been conducted to analyze problems, prospects, and opportunities created by the wildlife reserve. In the same way, visitors' survey has been conducted to analyze the attraction on the natural resources which are located in the area of wildlife reserve and hotel/lodge survey has been conducted to analyze the opportunities created by the park when the visitors come for visiting the wildlife reserve area. The visitors' survey analysis is related to tourism development which helps to increase the opportunity of employment and revenue generating. The visitor's demand can be considered as the most important factor determining the government revenue from the park at national level.

The study analyzes the flow of tourism based on the natural resources. The methods of analysis including the overall framework of the study have been discussed in the methodology section.

4.1 Tourists flow in conservation Areas of Nepal

In Nepal there are 10 national parks, 3 wildlife reserves and 1 hunting reserve. Most of the conservation areas, tourists visit is increasing by yearly. The information shown in Annex-2 shows the tourists flow in different conservation areas in different period of time, Annex-3 shows the monthly tourist flow in different conservation areas in FY 2013/14 and in Table-1 provides the information of flow of tourists in SWR in FY 2013/14 by nationality.

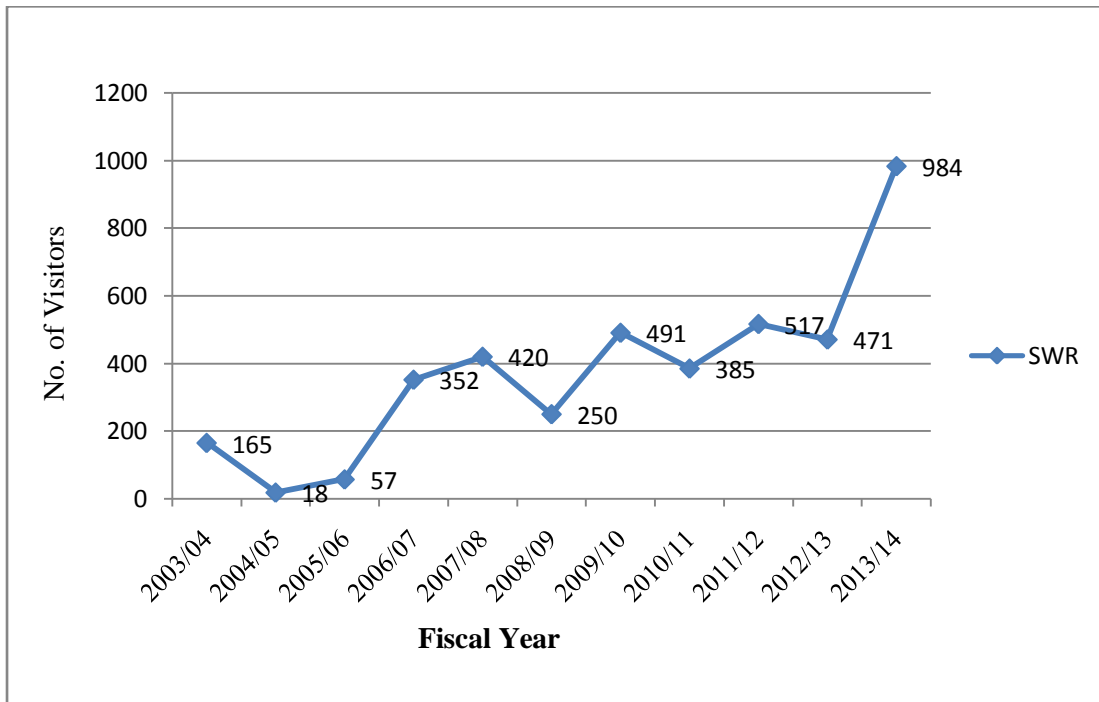
4.1.1 Yearly Flow of Tourists in Different Conservation Areas

This information evokes the information of tourist flow in different conservation areas in different year. The information is provided from the FY 2003/04 to 2013/14 in Annex-1.

Annex-1 shows the yearly tourists flow in different conservation areas in different period of time. Annex-1 provides the information that the tourist pressure in conservation area is increasing as per year. According to the information provided in Annex-1, people's attraction towards the nature is increasing which causes the tourism development in the conservation areas.

Annex-1 shows that tourist flow may increases, decrease by year in individual conservation area but in aggregate it is increasing annually. The exception case is in FY 2004/05 and FY 2012/13. In these two FY, the flow of tourists has decreased with respect to the previous year but has not decreased so vastly. According to the information in Annex-1 source, in fiscal year 2003/04, the total tourist flow in 13 conservation areas (9 national park, 3 wildlife reserve, and 1 hunting reserve) was 126,352. After 10 years, in FY 2013/14, the flow of tourist has been heaving increased and it came to 425334. This shows that nature based tourism has a bright future if it is more systematic. The highest tourist flow is in Chitwan National Park and Shivpuri- Nagarjun National park. Chitwan National park is oldest park and it is systematized than other. So tourists flow in this park is very high. In the same way Shivpuri- Nagarjun National park is very near from the Kathmandu. It is very easy to reach there because easy access to Transportation. So, people from Kathmandu who are always on crowd wants to get silence, they visit to Shivpuri-Nagharjun National park. This shows that, systematic, easy transportation increases the tourist flow in the conservation areas.

Figure 1: Tourist Flow in SWR



As shown in figure 4.1, the flow of tourist in SWR is very low with respect to other conservation areas. The flow of tourists in SWR in FY 2003/04 was 165 which is only 0.13 percent with respect to all conservation reserves instead Chitwan National Park carries 48.24 percent visitors. By the many reasons it was decreased vastly and became only 18 in the FY 2004/05 which became only 0.02 percent among the total visitors in National Parks and Wildlife Reserve. Again it was increased and became 57 in FY 2005/06. The trend of increment was continued in FY 2006/07 and FY 2007/08 which became 352 and 420 which covered 0.18 percent and 0.19 percent respectively. It shows that the attraction of visitors towards SWR has increased but in the FY 2008/09 it was decreased and became only 250 though the flow of tourists in National Parks and Wildlife reserves increased. In this FY, SWR carried only 0.09 percent tourists. In FY 2009/10 the flow of tourists increased and became 491 which is 0.17 percent. This result was satisfactory but again in FY 2010/11 the flow decreased though the trend was increased. The flow increased in FY 2011/12 and became 517 that carried 0.13 percent. In the FY 2012/13 the flow of tourists in all conservation areas have been decreased which affected the SWR also. In this FY the flow of tourists in SWR was 471 which carried 0.12 percent. It means in this FY the

flow of tourists in SWR also but the trend of decrease in SWR is faster than the flow of all conservation areas. Again in FY 2013/14, the flow of tourists in SWR has highly increased and became 984 which carried 0.23 percent visitors with respect to all conservation areas. This shows that the flow of tourists in SWR is not satisfactory because it carries very low ratio of visitors with respect to other conservation areas.

4.1.2 Flow of Tourists in Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve in 2013/14 by Nationality

This information provides us the knowledge about the tourists flow by nationality

Table 4.1: Flow of Tourists

Tourist Months	Foreigner	SAARC	Nepali	Total
Jul/Aug	0	0	0	0
Aug/Sep	1	0	4	5
Sep/Oct	25	0	26	51
Oct/Nov	11	0	99	110
Nov/Dec	18	6	107	131
Dec/Jan	11	11	67	89
Jan/Feb	10	3	48	61
Feb/Mar	22	1	101	124
Mar/Apr	50	20	61	131
Apr/May	9	6	146	161
May/Jun	20	14	59	93
Jun/Jul	7	15	6	28
Total	184	76	724	984

Source: Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, 2014

The table 4.1 shows the flow of tourists is Sukhalaphata Wildlife Reserve in FY 2013/14. According to the information, in the rainy season, the flow of tourists is in very minimum level. In the same way the flow to tourists in summer season is very high. In the other season the flow of tourists is sometime increases or sometimes decreases. The above information also shows the flow of tourists by nationality in the FY 2013/14.

The table 4.1 shows that the highest tourist flow of SWR, in FY 2013/14 is in the month of Apr/May. In this month, the tourist flow in the reserve is 161. Among them 146 are Nepalese, 9 are foreigner and 6 are from SAARC countries. In the same way, the after this the highest tourist flow is in the month of Nov/Dec and Mar/Apr. In

these months, the tourist flow is 131. In the month of Nov/Dec, among 131 visitors, 18 are foreigners, 6 are from SAARC countries and 107 are Nepalese. Similarly in the month of Mar/Apr, among 131 visitors, 50 are foreigner, 20 are from SAARC countries and 61 are from Nepal. The table-1 also shows that in the month of Jul/Aug, the flow of tourists is nil. In the same way, in the month of Aug/Sep and Jun/Jul, the flow of tourists is 5 and 28 respectively. In the month of Aug/Sep, among the 5 visitors, 1 is foreigner and 5 are Nepalese and in the month of Jun/Jul, among 28 visitors, 7 are foreigners, 15 are from SAARC countries and 6 are Nepalese.

The above analysis conditions that, in the month of rainy season the flow of tourists is low, similarly, among the 984 visitors, in the FY 2013/14, 184 are foreigners, 76 are form SAARC countries and 724 are from Nepal. The flow of visitors in SWR in FY 2013/14, Nepalese flow is more than the other countries. Similarly foreigners are more than the SAARC countries.

4.2 Revenue Generation in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve:

In Sukhalaphata Wildlife Reserve, revenue is generated in different topics. The administration has fixed the amount of fees in different sub-topics. Except entry fee from tourists; the reserve administration has other sources to collect the revenue. The reserve administration has fixed the entry fee in the reserve area in the following topics.

Table 4.2: Revenue Generation in SWR

Topics	Nepali	SAARC	Foreigners
Entry Fee (Per person per day)	50	500	1000
Camping (per person per day)	200	500	1000
Fishing (Per person per day)	200	1000	2000
Vechile Entry and helicopter landing	2000	2000	2000
Kharkhadai	25	-	-
Elephant Safari (per person/ hour)	500	1500	2500

Except above source, the reserve administration collects its revenue from different other sources also. The other sources are fine, sale of other forest products, sale of tender and so on.

The figure evokes that in the fiscal year 2013/14 the total revenue generation in Sulklaphanta Wildlife Reserve is Rs 3,533,682. The highest quantity of revenue is collected from fines i.e. Rs 2,525,252. After fines the highest quantity of revenue is collected from tourism activities i.e. entry fee vehicle fee and elephant safari. From the entry fees the revenue is collected Rs 258200, from the vehicle fee, revenue is collected Rs, 274000 and from elephant safari revenue is collected Rs. 16500. From the kharkhadai also large amount of revenue is collected. Kharkhadai is done in the month of Magh and Falgun. In the month of Magh, Rs, 284125 is collected from kharkadai and Rs 17825 is collected in the month of Falgun. The administration office has collected the revenue from sale of tender and sale of other products also. From the sale of tender Rs 134600 is collected and from the sale of other products Rs 23100 is collected.

4.3 Analysis of Primary Data

The collected data and information have been presented in various tables, pie-charts, bar-diagram and so on. Further, the data have also been analyzed in descriptive form.

4.3.1 Data Analysis of Visitors in Sukhalaphata Wildlife Reserve:

The total no of visitors taken for sample is 50. Among 50 visitors 40 are Nepali, 6 are Foreigners and 4 are from SAARC country

4.3.1.1 Expenditure by Tourists

The per day average spending amount of tourists for the purpose of visiting in the Sukhalaphata Wildlife Reserve is presented in table 4.3. In expenditure, travel cost, living cost, food cost for the visit is included. All costs are added which are for visiting purpose.

Table 4.3: Spending amount By Tourists

Spending Amount in Rs	No of visitors	Percent
Below 500	6	12
501-1000	8	16
1001-1500	12	24
1501-2000	14	28
above 2000	10	20
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The table 4.3 shows that 6 visitors spending amount is below Rs 500 per day which is 12 percent on the same way 10 visitors expenditure is above Rs 2000 per day. It means 20 percent visitors spend above Rs. 2000 per day. According to the field survey 2014, 8 visitors' spending is between Rs. 501 to 1000. 12 visitors' spending is between Rs. 1001 to 1500 and 15 visitors' spending is between Rs. 1501 to 2000 which becomes 16 percent, 24 percent and 28 percent respectively.

The average expenditure done by the visitors in SWR is Rs 1390. According to the Economic Survey, 2015; the average spending by per visitor per day is US\$ 42.8. This expenditure is done by foreign visitors. The average spending by visitors in SWR is very low with comparison to national expenditure this is because the

calculation is done in most of the Nepali visitors. This shows that if the foreign visitors are attracted than more income can be generated in SWR.

4.3.1.2 Visitor's main Attraction in Sukhalaphanta Wildlife Reserve

There are many attractive natural resources inside the Sukhalaphanta Wildlife Reserve as flora & fauna. Inside the reserve there is large grassland which is known as "Sukilaphanta"- white grassland. To the north on a clear day, the Nanda Devi Himal can be seen. There are several small ponds that draw wildlife towards them. The table 4.4 shows the attractive places that the visitors were attractive most.

Table 4.4: Visitors Main Attraction in SWR

Particular	No. of Visitors	Percentage
Group of swamp deer	22	44
Grassland (phanta)	10	20
Lakes inside the Reserve	12	24
Other wildlife	4	8
Birds	2	4
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The table 4.4 shows the most attractive natural resources that the visitors were attractive most in Sukhalaphanta wildlife Reserve in their own view. Though the visitors told the many names that they were attractive but in the above information it is kept the only one choice of the visitors.

According to the respondent visitors, 22 visitors were attractive most by the group of swamp deer, i.e. 44 percent. In the same way 20 percent of the visitors were attractive by the grassland i.e. 10 visitors; 12 visitors were attractive by the lakes inside the reserve which becomes 24 percent. Similarly 4 visitors choice was wildlife and 2 visitors choice was birds inside the reserve area which is 8 percent and 4 percent respectively.

4.3.1.3 Qualitative Analysis of Visitors

Generally, among the visitors in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, most of the visitors are Nepali. Most of the visitors visit the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve for having fun

or enjoy in their leisure time. Some visitors who are from near places come at the morning and return back at the evening. Some visitors were for camping at night time. The visitors were attracted by the many natural resources which are preserved inside the wildlife Reserve area. When the question was asked about the importance of natural resources, the answer from the visitors was as below.

1. It balances the ecosystem.
2. It popularizes the place.
3. It provides the place for refreshing the mental pressure and a good place for making a holiday enjoyable.

In this way the visitors view was noted on the importance of natural resources.

4.3.1.4 Problems of Tourists during their Visits

The visitors also shared the different types of problems that they faced during their visit. According to them, insecurity is the main problem faced by them. Similarly, difficult access up to the reserve area is also another problem. The lack of hotel and lodge is also another problem faced by visitors. According to them there are very low in number of hotel and lodge and existing hotel and lodge are also not giving the quality in their service. The facilitated hotel and lodge are far from the reserve area i.e. nearly 25 km. from the reserve. Another problem faced by the visitors was lack of guide. The foreign visitors told that there was difficult to get the proper guide who can explain the reserve in their language. Nepali, visitors also told that to show the reserve, the guide was not perfect in his business. Furthermore structure inside the reserve is another dissatisfaction shown by the visitors i.e. management way inside the reserve area, grassy and muddy path etc. The respondents also showed their dissatisfaction towards quality and cost of food facility provided for them. The visitors also pointed their dissatisfaction towards local people who are nearly passive in the sectors of tourism.

Table- 4.5 Problems Faced by Visitors

Problems	No. of visitors	Percentage
Insecurity	19	38
Lodging and feeding	16	32
Guidance	6	12
Others	9	18
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The table 4.4 shows that among 50 visitors 19 told that they feel insecure during their visit. The others 16 told that there is problem of appropriate lodging and feeding, 6 reported that there is problem of appropriate guidance and 9 visitors reported that they feel other problems as appropriate transportation, and others.

4.3.2 Data Analysis of Hotel/lodge in Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve:

The total number of hotel and lodge taken for sample is 10. Among 10 hotel and lodge, 1 lodge is only for foreigners i.e. this lodge is targeted for only foreigners.

4.3.2.1 Numbers of Rooms in Hotels and Lodges

The various numbers of rooms in 10 sampled hotels and lodges are presented in the table 4.5 below.

Table 4.6 Number of Rooms

Number of Rooms	No. of Hotels and Lodge	Percent
Below 5	2	20
5-9	3	30
10-14	3	30
above 14	2	20
Total	10	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The Table 4.6 shows that out of 10 hotels and lodges, 20 percent hotels and lodges have 0 to 4 numbers of rooms. One hotel has no room because this hotel manages for tourists only by tent. This hotel allows only the foreign visitors. Another one hotel was found having below 5 rooms. Similarly, 30 percent hotels and lodges have 5 to 9 numbers of rooms, other 30 percent hotels and lodges having 10 to 14 numbers of rooms and rest of 20 percent have 15 numbers of room with them.

4.3.2.2 Nature and Numbers of the Beds:

During the field visit, it has been found that all sample hotels and lodges have single, double and common rooms with them. During the field visit one hotel was found that it has no rooms with it. This hotel allow only the foreign visitors and these visitors,

during their living in the hotel, they live in tents which is ready when the visitors arrive.

Different hotels and lodges have different numbers of beds with them which is shown in table 4.7.

Table 4.7 Number of beds

Number of beds	No of Hotels and Lodge	Percentage
Below 10	2	20
11 to 15	1	10
16 to 20	3	30
21 to 25	1	10
26 and above	3	30
Total	10	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The Table 4.7 shows that 2 hotels have below 10 beds which is 20 percent. Similarly 1 and 3 numbers of hotel and lodge have 11 to 15 and 16 to 20 numbers of beds with them which becomes 10 and 30 percent respectively. In the same way 1 hotel have 21 to 25 numbers of beds which is 10 percent and 3 hotels have above 26 numbers of beds which is 30 percent.

4.3.2.3 Yearly Tourist Arrival in Hotels and Lodges

This information shows the yearly tourist arrival in the hotels and lodges.

Table 4.8 Number of Tourist Arrival

Number of Tourists	No of Hotels and Lodge	Percent
Below 500	1	10
500-1000	1	10
1001-1500	3	30
1501-2000	2	20
2001 and above	3	30
Total	10	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Table 4.8 shows that, in 10 percent hotels and lodges, tourist arrival is below 500 which is 1 in sampled hotel. Similarly in another 10 percent hotel and lodges the tourist arrivals 500 to 1000, 30 percent hotels and lodges welcome 1000 to 1500 tourists, 1500 to 2000 visitors are welcomed by 20 percent hotels and lodges. Similarly, in 30 percent hotels and lodges get above 2000 visitors yearly.

4.3.2.4 Spending Amount by Tourists

Per day spending amount of tourists in the Hotels and lodges is presented in table 4.9.

Table 4.9 Spending Amount by Tourists

Spending Amount	Numbers of Hotels and Lodges	Percent
Below 1000	2	20
1001-1500	5	50
above 1500	3	30
Total	10	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The Table 4.9 shows that in two hotels and lodges, the spending amount of tourists is below Rs 1000 per day. Similarly amounts in 5 and 3 numbers of hotels and lodges 1001 to 1500 and above 1500 respectively. The data shows that most of the tourists i.e. 50 percent tourists spend Rs. 1001 to 1500 per day.

4.3.2.5 Employment Generation by Hotel and Lodges

Different hotels and lodges have different number of Employment creation which is shown in Table 4.10.

Table 4.10 Employment Generation by Hotels and Lodges

Numbers of Workers	Numbers of Hotels and Lodges	Percent
Below 5	2	20
6-10	3	30
10 and above	5	50
Total	10	100

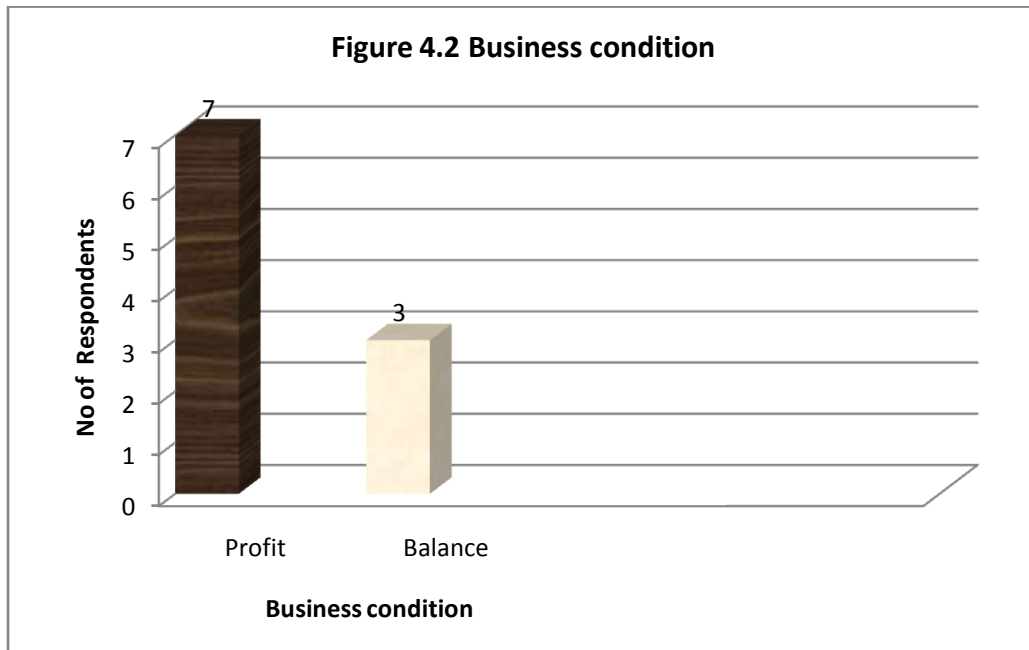
Source: Field Survey, 2014

The Table 4.10 shows the employment generation by the hotels and lodges. According to the Table 4.10; in 2 hotels and lodges, there are below 5 numbers of workers which is 20 percent, in 3 hotels and lodges, there are 6 to 10 numbers of

workers which is 30 percent. Similarly, in 50 percent hotels and lodges the employment generation is above 10 i.e. 5 numbers of hotels and lodges.

4.3.2.6 Condition of Business

The condition of business of respondents is presented in figure 1.



Source: Field Survey 2014

The figure 4.2 shows that out of 10 respondents, 7 respondents replied that there is profit in their business which represents 70 percent, similarly, 3 respondents answer that their business is in balance which is 30 percent. But, no any respondents have been suffering from loss.

4.3.2.7 Problems and Prospects of Hotels and Lodges

During field visit Hotel and lodge owners also shared different types of problems they face. The main problem they showed about the airport. Though in Majhgaun, there is an airport but nowadays is it not in use. Lack of the airport, the visitors from a long distance does not visit to Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. Another problem that they slowed was the lack of co-ordination between the two institution i.e. wildlife

administration and Nepal Army. The visitors face problems because lack of communication between these two institutions. Sometimes the visitor's ticket doesn't work. It means, though the visitors have tickets, they may have to wait for a long time to enter inside the park and sometimes they cannot go to the place where they want. In the same way another problem they are facing is the lack of maintenance inside park. When the park is not maintained well, the visitors decrease. Another problem is the lack advertisement by the park administration to attract the visitors.

According to the hotel and lodge owners, the prospect of tourism in the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve is very good. The owners discussed about advertisement. According to them, if the advertisement is done properly the tourists from India may increase as well as Nepali and Foreigners. If the above stated problems are solved as the restating of the airport and others; it will help to increase the tourism in the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve.

4.3.3 Data Analysis of Local people (Business Holders/Farmers)

In this part the respondents will be the local people. The samples are taken for analysis is 50 households.

4.3.3.1 Main occupation of Local people:

The main occupation of Local people is presented in table 4.11.

Table 4.11: Main Occupation of Local People:

Occupation	Numbers of Respondents	Percent
Farming	25	50
Business	14	28
Service	7	14
Other	4	8
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The table 4.11 shows that out of 50 sampled respondents (local People), 50 percent respondents are involved in farming sector, 28 percent are involved in business sector, and 14 percent are involved in service sector and only remaining 8 percent

local people are involved in other types of occupation. Other includes tailoring and so on.

4.3.3.2 Quantity Sold of Different Products

The data of field visit shows that people involved in tourism business usually are involved in sale of different products like cold drinks, handicraft items, and ready - made packed snacks and so on.

In the same way, local people who are not involved in tourism business usually have been involved in the sale of different products like rice, pulses, milk, vegetable, and other basic, household products.

During the field visit, only 24 respondents were found who were involved in the work of selling different products. Among the total household respondents 26 were not involved in business.

Table- 4.12 Quantity Sold of Different Products

Items	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Cold drinks and snacks	16	66.6
Handicraft	4	16.7
Others	4	16.7
Total	24	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

According to table 4.12 among 24 respondents 16 were involved in the business of selling cold drinks and snacks. Similarly 4 respondents were involved in the business of handicraft and 4 respondents were involved in other business as milk products and so on.

4.3.3.3 Earning by Month

The per month earning of different local people is presented in Table 4.13.

Table 4.13 Earning per Month

Amount (In Rs)	Numbers of Respondents	Percent
Below 4000	4	8
4001-8000	8	16
8001-12000	26	52
above 12000	12	24
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The Table 4.13 shows that 4 respondents' per month family income is below 4000. Similarly, 8 respondents' monthly income is between Rs 4001 to 8000 which is 16 percent, 26 respondents per month family income is between Rs 8001 to 12000 which 52 percent and 12 respondent's per month family income is above Rs 12000 which is 24 percent.

4.3.3.4 Place for Health Check-up:

The place for health check-up of local people is presented in Table 4.14.

Table 4.14 Place for Health Check-up

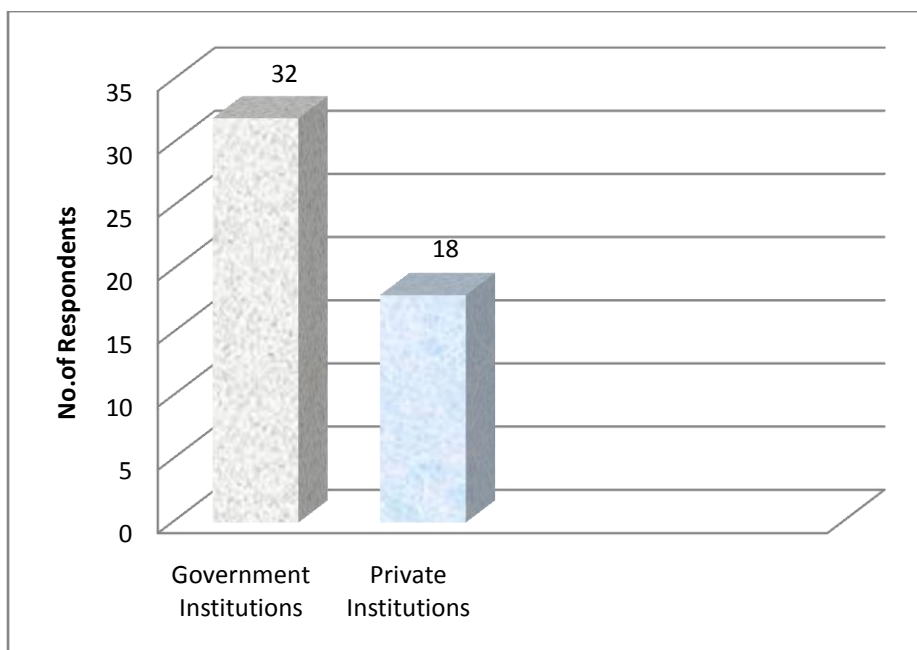
Place for Health check-up	Numbers of Respondents	Percentage
Clinic	9	18
Health post	15	30
Govt. Hospital	16	32
Private Hospital	7	14
Others	3	6
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The Table 4.14 shows that 9 respondents go to clinic for the purpose of health check-up which is 18 percent. Similarly 15 respondents, 16 respondents 7 respondents go to health post, government hospital and private hospital respectively. Similarly 3 respondents go to nursing home, in India and others which is 6 percent.

4.3.3.5 Education Institutions

The institutions in which the respondents send their children for educational purpose is presented in figure 4.3.



The Figure shows that out of 50 respondents, 32 respondents send their children to government institutions and 18 respondents send their children to private institutions which is 64 percent and 36 percent respectively.

4.3.3.6 Pattern of Food Consumption

During the field visit, most of the respondents replied that the food consumption pattern of their family is as per the need for sustained. Only few respondents among them replied that their family consume balanced diet.

4.3.4.7 Respondent's view

Prospects of Tourism Sector in Economic Development

All the respondents during the field visit replied that tourism sector is helping in the economic development of Majhgaun and Jhalari. It has created positive impact in the economic development of this region. According to them, if the tourists would increase, they may start a new business and employment would increase.

Similarly, the respondent who are involved in the tourism business have added that due to tourism, they will be able to earn more through the tourism sector in this region. They have become economically independent and able to improve their living standard. Similarly, they also added due to development of tourism sector,

they have become able to share arts and culture of the village. They have been earning foreign currency through which their day to day life has been changed positively. In this way, the respondents are of the view that tourism sector is really assisting in the economic development in this region.

Table 4.15 Prospects of Tourism Sector

Prospects	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Establishment of new business	12	20
Expansion of existing business	14	23.3
Share of art and culture	18	30
Others	16	26.7
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Among the 60 respondents 50 were household members and 10 were business persons. According to 12 respondents, increment of tourist flow increases the establishment of new businesses; according to 14 respondents, it helps to expand the existing businesses; according to 18 respondents, it helps to share the art and culture which on the one hand helps to preserve the art and culture and on the other increases the income of the locals; and other remaining 16 respondents replied that it helps on employment generation, earning of foreign currency etc. which is kept under the subtopic 'others' in the table.

Measures to be Adopted to Attract Tourists in SWR Region

In the field visit, the respondents suggested various measures which should be adopted in order to attract more tourists in this region. Among them, most of the respondents forwarded their view that there should be creation of political stability in the country. They are of the view that if political stability is created then it lowers down different strikes and likewise activities through which tourists are mostly irritated. The next measure is that there should be a good hospitality of local people environment. There should be improvement in imitation activities.

The respondents also suggested that flight should be activated in order to attract more tourism. There should be expansion of tourism information centre in different local places also. The next measure is that there should be creation of peace in the country and criminal activities should be avoided. There should be creation of such

environment in which tourists feel free to move from one place to next. There should not be presence of any threats to tourists. That is, there should be presence of secured environment for tourists.

The respondents also said that as most tourists are attracted towards natural beauty of this region, Natural resources should be conserved keeping it in priority. Proper communication system, proper transportation system and also proper road way should be developed in this region in order to attract more tourists in this region.

Table 4.16 Measures to be Adopted to Attract Tourists

Measures to be Adopted	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Creation of political stability	8	13.3
Maintain good hospitality	12	20
Easy transportation	18	30
Expansion of tourism information centre	6	10
Others	16	26.7
Total	60	100

Source: Field Survey 2014

Tourists flow in the SWR region is very low so the respondents have suggested some of the measures to attract the tourists in the area. Eight (13.3 percent) respondents suggest the creation of political stability; 12 (20 percent) respondents suggest maintaining good hospitality; 18 (30 percent) respondents suggest building the easy transportation system to reach the area; six (10 percent) respondents suggest expanding the tourism information centre; and remaining 16 (26.7) respondents suggest other miscellaneous provisions, activities and task to attract more tourists.

Conflict with Wild Animals and Reserve Administration

Many of the respondents of household replied that they are feeling conflict with wild animal. The household respondents whose field is near the reserve area, their paddy wheat and other crops are finished by wildlife animals. Sometimes elephants come near to their home which products fear in their mind. According to the respondents, the reserve administration is not always able to avoid the animals.

According to the respondents, the reserve administration is not giving the much firewood that they need. They have to pay fine by time and time again because the lack of grasslands for their cattle outside the reserve.

Table 4.17 Conflict with Wild Animals and Administration

Reasons for Conflict	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Destruction of crops	22	44
Fear in mind	12	24
Others	16	32
Total	50	100

Source: Field Survey 2014

The conflict with animals is widespread in the SWR region. The local people always face off with the wild animals which results in loss of crops, homes, injury of people and sometimes the loss of life also. So they always live with fear that anything can happen in no time. Among the 50 respondents, 22 respondents said that the reason for the conflict is the destruction of crops; 12 respondents said that they always have the fear of attack by the wild animals; 16 respondents said the reasons for the conflict are others. The locals are also in continuous conflict with the administration because the administration is not doing something to control the destruction of crops from the wild animals and to control the wild animals. In the same way, the administration is not providing sufficient firewood.

CHAPTER -V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Summary of Major Findings

Tourism sector is regarded as one of the important sectors which have been contributed a lot towards economic development of the country. It has been able to generate employment opportunity to the Nepalese people through which they have become able to improve their living standard. Similarly, tourism sector has become able to contribute foreign currency to the country, Nepal.

Tourism is the world's fastest growing industry and being one of the hottest economic activities, leisure recreation is popular all over the world. It has affected almost every part of the world and Nepal is not an exception. Nepal is recognized as a tourist destination because of its unique nature. Besides cultural heritage and religious/traditional practice, Historical monuments and the sites of pilgrimages are sure to motivate tourists to visit Nepal at least once in lifeline. The art and architecture, ethnicity tradition and custom of the people are there to see while feeling the hospitality and warmth of the people in this friendly atmosphere of Nepal. The foot trails, the country side view, the highland and lowlands hills and plains, the green forests, magnificent rivers, ice-capped Himalayas, diverse group of flora and fauna are not to be missed by anyone who travels Nepal with lots of expectations. This trade creates many favorable multiplier effects in private sector like foreign country earning, employment generation, change in socio-cultural and traditional structure, change in lifestyle, upgrading living standard etc.

The present study is based upon the tourism activities in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve which tries to show the relationship between natural resources and tourism. There are various positive impacts which have been created through the enhancement of tourism sector in this region. Employment generation, foreign currency earning, living standard increment, independency, increment in household income etc. are the positive impacts. Similarly, the benefit from the tourism activities in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve promotes to conserve the natural resources. The present study shows that the flow of tourists in conservation areas is in increasing rate.

The Sukhalaphata Wildlife Reserve, this fascinating land of biodiversity is the largest protected area of Far-Western Development Region. This wildlife carries the largest amount of tourist among the conservation areas in Far-western Development region. The unique biodiversity, the scenic grandeur in combination with the multicultural and multi-ethnic diversity make it the popular visiting destination. With the objectives of achieving a balance between the environment conservation and socio-economic development, through people's participation the Sukhalaphata Wildlife Reserve established. Through the arrival of tourism in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, and administration and people's of locally have been me able to earn foreign currency and improve their living standard. They have become able to improve their economic standard through tourism business. In the same way, the administration office also collecting revenue from tourism business.

Conclusion:

The conclusion of this study can be presented in the following points.

1. The trend of tourism arrived in the study area has been increasing continuously each year. This indicates that tourists are attractive in the study area.
2. Different lakes, wild animals, group of swamp deer, phanta and other natural resources are the main attraction qualities in the study area which are popular tourists mainly visit the study due to these qualities which are attractive.
3. The study also finds out the people involved in tourism business have become able to earn foreign currency through which they have become able to improve their economic status. They have become able to improve their living standard.
4. Similarly, the study depicts that people who are involved in tourism business are much more aware in health, education and nutrias food in comparison to those people who are not involved in tourism business.
5. The next positive impact of tourism sector in the study area is that local people have become economically independent through which their confident level has been increased in order to do some business and change their living standard.
6. Art, tradition and culture of the study area has been flourished through the exchange of handicraft items and through the visit of tourists in Nepal.

7. The increase in tourism activities in the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve could promote to conserve the natural resources and can decrease the conflict between human and wildlife animals.

Hence, tourism sector has been creating lots of positive impacts in generation of increment in household income level; art; tradition and culture have also been flourished among the foreigners. So, Tourism sector/business must be prioritized which are based on natural resources.

5.2 Recommendations

The study area has not become able to achieve the benefits that it can achieve. The important and benefits to this region is not sufficient. For more increment of economic sector in the area of Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, following mentioned recommendations are suggested through which tourism development can also be promoted and conservation of reserve can be done properly.

1. The special attention must be given to the sustainable management of fuel wood. The encouragement for the private plantation is one of the positive steps in this direction. In the response to household attitude the large number of households suggested for the biogas. Therefore, providing the credit facility for the biogas plant can be considered as one of the strong devices to mitigate the pressure on the park resources.
2. The reduction in livestock number of household due to the park establishment is found to be remarkable. It must be compensated directly or indirectly. The establishment of income generating projects for the local people may be the indirect method of compensation.
3. Human life and crop damage by wildlife of the park can be considered as one of the conspicuous problems in the adjoining area. It is desirable that special development under the park management that deals with depredation should be established.
4. The political instability is the burning issue in the content of Nepal. Due to this local people and tourists are much more affected. Strike, which is one of the main problems to the mobility of tourists create problems to them. And, strike is the result of political instability.

5. There should be establishment of different tourism related information centers in local places or villages areas also.
6. There should be development of proper way to enter into to forest. In the same way, geographical constraints should be reduced, proper infrastructure system, proper transportation system and proper communication should be developed.

Hence, tourism sector is flourishing in the context of Nepal. In order to attract more tourists in Nepal, various measures should be adopted so that Nepal can become able to earn more foreign currency and can get developed economically. The natural resources based tourism should be increased because it helps to preserve the natural resources and balance the eco-system.

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Questionnaire

Appendix A. Questionnaire for Visitors:

1. General information of the visitors:

Name:

Age.....

Sex.....

Nationality.....

Occupation.....

2. What is your main objective to come in Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve?

.....
.....
.....

3. What are the Natural beauties in the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve that you are most attracted?

- a) Group of swamp deer
- b) Grassland
- c) Lakes inside the reserve
- d) Other wildlife
- e) Birds

4. What is your average daily expense?

- a) Below 500
- b) 501- 1000
- c) 1001- 1500
- d) 1501- 2000
- e) above 2000

5. What are the problems that you have faced?

- a) Insecurity
- b) Lodging and feeding
- c) Guidance
- d) Others

6 How do you define the importance of natural resources?

.....
.....
.....

Appendix B. Questionnaire for Hotels and Lodge owner:

1. General Information of the Hotels

Name of the hotel:.....

Name of the hotel owner:.....

Location of the hotel:.....

Number of Employment in the hotel:.....

2. What is the number of rooms in your hotel?

- a) Below 5 b) 5-9 c) 10-14 d) above 14

3. What is the number of bed in your hotel?

- a) Below 10 b) 11-15 c) 16-20 d) 21-25 e) above 25

5. What type of commodity do tourists use?

- a) Local b) imported

6. What is the spending of tourists per day?

- a) Below 1000 b) 1001- 1500 c) above 1500

7. What is the condition of your business?

- a) Profit b) Balance c) Loss

8. From which country is the maximum flow of tourist?

- a) Nepal b) SARC c) others

9. Do the tourist share any types of problems that they faced during their visits with you?

- a) Yes b) No

If yes, what are the problems?

.....
.....
.....

10. What are the activities that you have done to attract the tourists?

.....
.....
.....

11. Is tourism sector helping in the improvement of your economic condition?

If Yes, How?

If No, How?

12. Do you think tourism sector is helping in economic development of this region?

If Yes, How?

If No, How?

13. What are the problems that you are facing in your business?

.....
.....
.....

Appendix C. Questionnaire for Household People:

1. General Personal Information:

Name:.....

Age:

VDC/Nagar :.....

Ethnicity:.....

2. What is your main occupation?

- a) Farming b) business c) service d) other

3. Is you any family member is involved in tourism business?

- a) Yes b) No

4. Do you cultivate any product?

- a) Yes b) No

If yes, what type of product?

.....
.....
.....

5. Do you sell any products?

- a) Yes b) No

If yes, what type of product?

- a) Cold drinks and snacks
b) Handicraft items
c) Others

6. What is your earning per month?

.....
.....
.....

7. How many members are there in your family?

.....

8. Where do you go for health checkup?

- a) Clinic b) health post c) Govt. hospital d) Private hospital
- e) Other

9. Where do you send your children for educational purpose?

- a) Govt. School b) Private School

10. Are you interested to make investment or increase investment in your business?

- a) Yes b) No

11. Do you think that the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve is helping to increase the tourism in this locality?

If Yes, How.....

If No, How.....

12. What can be done to promote tourism sector in this region?

.....
.....
.....

13. What are the benefits that you have got from the Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve?

.....
.....
.....

14. What are the deficits that you have got from the SWR?

.....
.....
.....

15. What can be done to save the natural resources which are allocated here?

.....
.....
.....

Annex-1: Tourist Flow By FY

Source –DNPWR

Fy Institutions	2002 /03	003/ 04	004/ 06	006/ 07	007/ 08	008/ 09	009/ 10	010/ 11	011/ 12	012/ 13	013/ 14
CNP	6094 8	426 54	544 49	806 30	103 873	118 685	115 181	146 620	170 112	153 749	173 425
BNP	2273	117 3	139 4	371 3	447	650 5	662 4	805 5	106 92	129 74	132 07
LNP	339	412 2	423 0	609 7	921 9	991 5	106 03	111 19	143 15	133 70	125 52
SNP	2196 0	177 50	201 00	233 13	281 70	294 99	311 89	333 90	356 71	365 50	351 57
RNP	1	65	28	4	61	105	157	207	124	165	181
SPNP	215	252	119	208	607	591	558	519	53	579	417
KNP	8	0	1	7	10	2	5	27	12	19	47
MBNP	189	103	74	227	594	144 3	190 3	166 0	134 2	152 3	108 3
SNNP	3901 4	509 90	643 80	739 01	688 71	106 931	125 831	149 587	154 845	165 904	180 464
KTWR	1205	223 5	420 7	614 5	457 5	196 0	189 4	466 0	570 4	444 6	734 9
SWR	165	18	57	352	420	250	491	385	511 7	471	984
PWR	35	90	87	197	34	93	84	112	343	192	379
DHR	0	0	0	0	55	25	17	77	77	8	9
Total	1263 52	119 452	149 126	194 794	216 936	276 004	294 537	356 424	393 807	390 030	425 334