

# CHAPTER-I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 General Background

One of the earliest definitions of tourism was provided by the Austrian economist Hermann Von Schullard in 1910, who defined it as, "Sum total of operators, mainly of an economic nature, which directly relate to the entry, stay and movement of foreigners inside and outside a certain country, city or a region."

In 1941, Hunziker and Krapf defined tourism as people who travel "the sum of the phenomena and relationships arising from the travel and stay of non-residents, insofar as they do not lead to permanent residence and are not connected with any earning activity." In 1976, the Tourism Society of England's definition was: "Tourism is the temporary, short-term movement of people to destination outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at each destination. It includes movements for all purposes."

Tourism is travel for recreational, leisure or business purposes. The World Tourism Organization defines tourists as people who "travel to and stay in places outside their usual environment for more than twenty four hours and not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited."

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wikitourism>)

The urge to explore new place and seek a change of and experiences is not new, rapid development in the means of transportation and communication has made the whole world practically one neighborhood and has made an easy affair prosperity, leisure, coupled with the quest for pleasure and recreation are the principle motivating factors which sustain the development. Before industrial revolution (1769-1840) travel was mainly a matter of seeking knowledge, engaging in trade and commerce and undertaking pilgrimage. The industrial revolution caused technological changes, which influence in the social, political, economical and cultural life of human being. The industrial revolution has brought the change in the sector of tourism with the power driven machine. The consumption of such power driven

machine attracts tourists from one place to another to full their expectation and desire of entertainment. (Upadhyay, 2008)

In the beginning it was the railways, which opened up the continents. Then came streams trips, followed by the introduction of motorcar, which started to decentralize nations. Finally we have jet aeroplane and magnetic train have led to a new concept mass tourism. Advent of the jet travel in 1958 was most dramatic event. Air travel from 1960 was tremendously because of introduction jet similarly advent of high speed of trains, were first introduced in Europe helped to boost up travel. Some experts even talk of potential speed of 500 km per hour on rails, high speed magnetic trains are not only fast but also seek looking, noiseless, low on puluion and above all cause no wear and tear on track because they never touch it. In japan and France such trains are running successfully. Thus, the travel of train mechanism of the organization. (Upadhyay, 2008)

"Human beings are innately curious concerning world we live. We yearn to know what other places look like – what the people, their culture, the animals and plant life and landforms may be elsewhere." The inquistiveness of human psychology is the basic foundation of tourism during the early human history; men may have traveled under compulsion primarily to satisfy their biological needs such as food, shelter and security. Historical records reveal that people used to travel for reasons other than compulsion. The motives for travelling have changed. People started to travel for trade, conquest, pilgrimage, curiosity, knowledge and pleasure. Although vast movement of people is a recent phenomenon but it actually reflects along tradition of migration and mixing of population. At present, the movement of people has become one of the world's largest industries known as 'tourism'. Conceptually "Tourism is temporary movement of people to destinations out side their normal places of work and residence, the activities under taken during their stay in those destinations and faciities created to cater their needs." tourism has thus become the economic activity to fulfill the needs of the travelers. "Tourism can be defined as the science, art and business of attracting and transporting visitors, accommodating them graciously catering to their needs and wants." (Shrestha, 1999)

## **1.2 Tourism in Nepalese Context**

Nepal is a landlocked country in South Asia. It is located in the Himalayas and bordered to the north by the People's Republic of China, and to the south, east and west by the Republic

of India. With an area of 147,181 square kilometers (56,827 sq ml) and a population of approximately 30 million, Nepal is the world's 93<sup>rd</sup> largest country by land mass the 41<sup>st</sup> country. Kathmandu is the nation's capital and the country's largest metropolis.

Nepal has a rich geography. The mountainous north has eight of the world's ten tallest mountains, including the highest point on Earth, Mount Everest, called Sagarmatha in Nepal. It contains more than 240 peaks over 20,000 ft (6,096 m) above sea level. The fertile and humid south is heavily urbanized. By some measures, Hinduism is practiced by a larger majority of people in Nepal than in any other nation. Buddhism, though a minority faith in the country, is linked historically with Nepal as the birthplace of the Buddha. Many Nepali do not distinguish between Hinduism and Buddhism and follow both religious traditions.

Nepal was ruled by the Shah dynasty from 1768, when Prithvi Narayan Shah unified its many small kingdoms. In 2006, however, a decade-long civil war by the communist party of Nepal (Maoist) along with several weeks of mass protests by all major political parties of Nepal culminated in a peace accord, and the ensuing elections of the last monarch Gyanendra Shah and the establishment of a federal democratic republic in 28 May 2008. The first president of Nepal, Ram Baran Yadav, was sworn in on 23 July 2008.

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nepal>)

Nepal is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of bio-diversity due to its unique geographical position and altitudinal variation. The elevation of the country ranges from 59 m at sea level to the highest point on earth, Mt. Everest at 8,848 m, all within a distance of 150 km resulting into climate conditions from sub-tropical to arctic.

Nepal occupying only 0.03 percent of the earth is home to :

- ) 2% of all flowering plants in the world,
- ) 8% of the world's population of birds (more than 848 species),
- ) 4% of mammals on earth,
- ) 11 of the world's 15 families of butterfly (more than 500 species),
- ) 600 indigenous plant families,
- ) 319 species of exotic orchids.

Different ages stand face in the form of the historians, towering mountains tempt the mountaineers, trekkers and sight seers and thrill the adventurous, tumbling and rushing rivers challenge the rafters, biodiversity attract researchers and common people alike, ethnic, social and culture structures attract those interested in the human affairs, tranquility of the country as a whole captivates those who meditate in peace. In short, Nepal has something to offer to everyone. ([www.welcomenepal.com](http://www.welcomenepal.com))

According to his study before 1950, in Rana regime, no foreigners were allowed to visit Nepal without permission of Rana rulers. After opening the door of tourism the tourist inflow in Nepal rapidly increased. He indicated that more than 1,00,000 tourist's visitor the country in 1976. Since 1962 the number of tourists arrival have grown at an average rate 20 percent per annum and more than 80 percent of the total tourist arrived in the country by air and 20 percent arrived by road. The study pointed out that Europe had been the major tourist generator of Nepal in 1975 and majority of tourist come for pleasure and sight-seeing. (Burger, 1978)

### **1.3 Introduction of the Study Area (Kanchanpur)**

Nepal is a small Himalayan country divided into five development regions, fourteen zones and seventy five districts. Kanchanpur district, a part of Mahakali zone, is one of seventy five district of Nepal. Mahendranagar is the Headquarter of Kanchanpur district. Kanchanpur district is lies in Far Western Development Region of Nepal. It has 19 village development committees (VDC) and one municipality. The total area of Kanchanpur district is about 1610 sq km. Absolute location of Kanchanpur district is 28<sup>0</sup>32 to 29<sup>0</sup>8 north latitude and 80<sup>0</sup>30' to 80<sup>0</sup>33' eastern longitude. Total population of Kanchanpur district is 3,77,899. (District Profile, Kanchanpur, 2009)

Kanchanpur is divided in 19 VDCs and one municipality called Mahendranagar is also the Headquarter and main market of Kanchanpur district. Similarly, Jhalari, Belauri, Chaunni, bharmadev, Gaddachauki are the main trade center. In Kanchanpur district there are many rivers mainly Mahakali, Chaudhar, Mona, Dodha where as Mahakali is the main river. Other rivers like Jogbudha, Gahatadi, Kamikate, Tikani, tilachaur, Benagaun, Bachela, radha, Shajli, Tati, phuleli, Kairala, Sosa, Dodhara etc. Similarly there are so many beautiful Lakes in Kanchanpur like Betkot Lake, Jhilmila Lake, Rani Lake, and Chovar Lake etc.

Kanchanpur, the far western gateway of Nepal is well known for Barasinghas of world famous Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, lush green natural forests, different religions and holy destination, unique diversified culture, tranquil picnic and sight seeing spots and easy access to the famous cities of India like Delhi, Lucknow, Nainital and so on. It is equally famous for its unique Gaura Festival, Deuda Dance, Tharu Culture, Chhaliya Dance, beautiful lakes and varieties of local dishes.

Kanchanpur district is rich in its ethnicity. The district is inhabited by various ethnic groups like Brahmin (17%), chhetri (930%), Tharu (21%), Magar (4%), Dalit (14%), Thakuri (5%) and other (9%). Traditional festivals, religious rites and rituals, art treasures, language, dress, dances, music and folklore have endowed the district with culturally very rich.

There are so many important religious places in Kanchanpur district such as Siddhanath Temple, Shivadham Temple, Radha Krishna Temple, Baijyanath Temple, Brahmadev, and Niglasaini Bhagawati Temple. Similarly Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and Suspension Bridge are famous destination of Kanchanpur district.

#### **1.4 Statement of the Problem**

Nepal opened its door to foreigners only after the down of democracy in 1950, before that government controlled foreigners. In early year the country had no infrastructure such as communication, transportation and other tourism supporting facilities. After that period infrastructure is made, private sectors are established. but investment on tourism is concentrated only in developed cities like Kathmandu, Pokhara, Chitwan, Everest region and other popular places. Tourism is one of the most important industries of Nepal. Unfortunately, key facilities like transportation, communication, accommodation, recreation and other facilities are not properly developed in all regions of Nepal. As a result the inhabitants of different region are not benefited equally from this sector. In Far Western region there is poverty, inequality, illiteracy in large scale. In that region government and private sector did not given any priority.

In many cases review of literature reveals that very little progress has been achieved in the area of tourism diversification, is it in terms of product or place. the main tourism products and places remain the same and very little has been added in it since 1972 when the first

Nepal tourism Master plan was formulated. Tourism promotion and development is largely concerned on urban area and a few of the traditional sites outside the Kathmandu valley.

Benefits of tourism are disproportionately distributed to the centre (Kathmandu) from incoming tourists, much of the tourists' dollar remains in Kathmandu and little finds its way into other parts of the country. There exists a situation of coreperiphery dependency in which the centre controls to a very considerable extent of the distributions of tourism around Nepal, accumulating most of the income generated, organizing much of the travel activities in prepaid packages, and supplying many of the needs from the centre so that benefits flowing out to rural areas and small towns are limited. (SNV, 2003)

A series of general problems are vivid in the context of tourism development in the remote areas of the country. there are poorly developed access and local institutions in the remote areas: Lack of means, knowledge and opportunities and poorly developed backward and forward linkages have seriously hindered tourism development in the remote areas of the country. Similarly, weak coordination between the centre and local insitutions, limited ability of the local, persistent inequalities and fragile biophysical environment are some other major problems in this field.

In Nepal there are many places and sections, which are distinct and carry huge potentials for tourism development. Among them Kanchanpur is such a unique place where there are many natural, cultural and other attractions which can attract domestic as well as foreign tourists. As most other districts, Kanchanpur is a multiethnic district. It is rich in cultural, religious sites, which could be attraction centers for the religious tourists. the increasing interest of foreign tourists in diverse rural life styles and diverse culture and pristine nature have made it imperative to do some thing for the development of tourism in Kanchanpur district.

A few number of tourists visit Kanchanpur district and its several places like Suspension Bridge, Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve, Bedkot Lake, Jhilmila Lake etc. the few number of arrivals and the length of stay of tourists indicate that a wide research is needed in this field to find out the main problems, prospects and recommendation especially.

Development history of Kanchanpur's tourism sector has had many challenges and problems. Needles to say, some of these challenges and problems are still very much around. Due to the lack of proper arrangement, Kanchanpur has been facing such problems to develop essential

infrastructure for tourism development. There is only one or two research works has been done in the field of tourism in Kanchanpur, both by government and private sector. Besides this, Kanchanpur lacks in resource base industries and skill technology. Another hindrance i.e. environmental pollution due to the serious exploitation of tourism resources may impact on the various aspects is not usually enough still the country is facing problem of setting quality tourism and development problems.

### **1.5 Objectives of the Study**

The general objects of the study are to explore the problems and the prospects of tourism in Kanchanpur district.

- i. To examine the trend of tourist arrivals in the Kanchanpur district.
- ii. To identify the important tourist sites in the Kanchanpur district.
- iii. To assess trend of tourism development in Kanchanpur district.
- iv. To identify the problems and prospects of tourism in the study area.

### **1.6 Rational of the Study**

The aim of the study is to explore the different aspects of the tourism in the Kanchanpur district. It covers the values, arts, rituals, and magical phenomenon adopted by the local people. These aspects more or less related to the economic dimension of the human being. These components have been playing important role for the promotion of the tourism in the far western Nepal. Kanchanpur, being rich in tourism resources but the people do not know about uniqueness and beauties of Kanchanpur. Tourism also support to a number of indigenous industries and services or creating direct, indirect and induced employment opportunities. Kanchanpur has been looking forward for tourism development.

It also visualizes and addresses v as one of the prospective and unique place of glories, land of culture and valley of lakes and temples, which can offer and welcome the increasing numbers of tourists and provides satisfactory pleasures to the visitors. It attempts to highlight the problems and prospects of tourism in v district especially in the Shuklaphata Wildlife Reserve.

Kanchanpur district is unique in terms of the natural beauty, which provides the habital for the wild animals however such natural beauty lies away from the tourists due to lack of

developed infrastructure. There are natural attractions like Rani Tal, Bedkota Tal, Similarly, the culture of the Kanchanpur district is also unique than other region of Nepal. This region itself is rich in its folk culture as people have been continuing various types Deuda dance, Bhuwa, Chhoti nachney, Jatras and Parvas. Such types of the culture have been transforming one generation to another. Religious sites of this region have been attracting both domestic and international tourists. This shows the high possibility of tourism development in Kanchanpur district. As a local people of the study area the researcher is familiar with natural, religious and cultural sites, which will helpful to connect the field data within the period of the field research.

This study has provided basic information and general guidance to the local people, tourist and other concerned agencies about the way to attain tourism development in Kanchanpur district. It has also be of immense help and guidance for the development planners, Ministry of Tourism, Nepal tourism Board, INGO's, District Development Committee, Kanchanpur and the all organizations (public and private) related to tourism. Kanchanpur is famous for its own natural beauty and commercial cash cropping. There are many places that can be promoted as rural tourism, cultural and sports tourism destinations in Kanchanpur district such as Belauri, Sankarpur and Dodhara-Chandani are the main hubs of rural, cultural and sports tourism in Kanchanpur respectively. This research will be an important milestone for the development of tourism in general, rural and religious tourism in Kanchanpur district. Besides all this, the following points also highlights on the rationale of this study.

- i. It has raised the level of awareness among the people in around the study area to preserve nature, culture and environment.
- ii. It has also explored the major problems and prospects to promote tourism in Kanchanpur district.
- iii. It will have significant contribution in tourism diversification of the country in terms of both place and product once its success stories are replicated by other district that would contribute in attaining the overarching goal of poverty alleviation.

The study is location centric focusing on the Kanchanpur district and it's surrounding Far Western Development Region.



## **1.7 Limitation of the Study**

Every research work has its own limitation no research work can encompass all aspects of the study area. This research also limits the time and resources to carry out the entire study within its boundaries. The present study is limited to Kanchanpur district. This study is mainly concerned with the existing and potential tourist destinations, tourism activity, prospects and problems of tourism in Kanchanpur district. Similarly, this study may not show the issues like poverty reduction, regional inequality etc.

Primary sources of the data were collected only in the sacred sites of the tourist area and hotels especially Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve which were helpful to generalized the overall issues of the Kanchanpur district. Questionnaire and interview method were utilized to dig out the information, which consume more time. Similarly secondary data were collected from various sources like T.U. Centre Library and Library of Central Department of Economics, publication of World Tourism Organization (WTO) Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation (MOTCA), Nepal Tourism Board (NTB), Ph D. thesis, M.A. thesis research reports, books, Newspapers, Journals and email internet and other published and unpublished seminar papers.

## **1.8 Organization of the Study**

This study has been broadly divided into nine chapters. The first chapter has introduced the topic with introduction and in it includes: general background, statement of the study, organization of the stud and expected outcomes with policy implications.

The second chapter deals with the review of literature which includes theoretical framework, empirical studies in the context of Nepal and literature review on Kanchanpur district. The third chapter includes research methodology. The fourth chapter has presented geographical and physical features of Kanchanpur district. Potential tourist destinations in Kanchanpur are includes in fifth chapter, similarly data analysis and presentation is including in sixth chapter. The seventh chapter has settled on problems and prospects of tourism in Kanchanpur district. The eighth chpapter has concluded the summary, conclusion and putted forward recommendations to promote Kanchanpur as an important tourist destination for both domestic as well as international tourists. Finally, a section of appendices, bibliographical and annexes references are included.

## CHAPTER-II

### LITERATURE REVIEW

Tourism is one of the largest industries of the world. It is known as a service oriented intangible industry. It is a recent phenomena and travel is an ancient phenomena. In the past, large, pilgrims, scholars etc. traveled in search of ancient text, trade and commerce. After industrial revaluation, ILO took the initiative of giving paid holidays at six weeks per year, growing industrial activities, population growth, new settlement and growth of new towns and cities, railways system and steamship for the need of individual travel especially western society gave birth to a large and prosperous growth of tourism in the world.

Tourism does not exist in isolation. It consists of certain components, three of which may be considered basic one. These basic components are attraction, access and accommodation. The knowledge of tourism components and their interrelation is essential. Willingness to travel is affected by several factors. It is an outcome of attraction, access, accommodation and amenities. Therefore it is important to identify and categorize components of tourism. The quantity and quality of tourism components determine tourism success in any area (Upadhyay, 2008).

In context of Nepal, the history of tourism is not so long. After the advent of democracy in 1951, Nepal formulated an open door policy. When late Mr. Tenzing Norgay and Mr. Edmund Hillary claimed Mt. Everest then world's attraction was focused on Nepal and subsequently a tourism industry began to develop smoothly.

There are ample benefits of eco tourism. It can provide income and employment contributing to development, enabling public enjoyment and understanding and it also can justify nature protection (Jha, 1999). Eco-tourism potentially offers national, regional and total economic benefits similar to those of other types of tourism activity. Full economic potential at different aspects of economy is yet to be substantiated by specific studies. (Ziffer, (1989)

A new concept called eco-tourism has emerged as a replacement to mass tourism as a way to reduce adverse impact on nature, Eco-tourism is a response to the negative effect that mass tourism has had on the culture and geography of countries. In reality, ecotourism is a

culturally and environmentally sensitive travel that contributes to conservations and management of natural areas for sustainable economic development. (Gurung, 1997)

Many countries have developed and several countries are developing guidelines and standard for tourist and tour operators to ensure that eco-tourism is environmentally and culturally sustainable. Nepal has developed some guide lines for tourism. Eco-tourism trips in general should include: pre trip preparation, environmental impact, resource impact, cultural impact, wildlife impact, environmental benefits, advocacy and education, etc. (Jha, 1999). Being community and natural resource based, eco-tourism provides an opportunity to harness indigenous knowledge for the social economic benefit of rural poor communities. Eco-tourism's proponents argue that eco tourism contributes to more sustainable development in Nepal because it reconciles the pressures for economic growth with those for environment preservation in the management of natural areas as income generating tourist places (Chauhan, 2004). Developing eco-tourism product requires minimal impact and ecologically sustainable approaches to tourism planning development and management. Community participation in decision making planning and participatory techniques at a grass roots level are key methodologies involved in Nepal for eco tourism development.

In recent years a specific category of nature based tourism has developed along these lines, "Ecological tourism" or "eco tourism" as defined by IUCN. Eco-tourism program is environmentally responsible travel and visitation to relatively undisturbed natural areas, in order to enjoy and appreciate nature (and any accompanying cultural features both past and present) that promotes conservation has low visitor impact and provides for beneficially active socio economic involvement of local populations. The eco-tourism society's definition is similar: "eco-tourism is responsible travel to natural areas that conserves the environment and sustains the well being of local people. (Blangy and Wood, 1992).

For World Tourism Organization (WTO) sustainable tourism presents tourists and host regions while protecting and enhancing opportunity for the future. It is envisaged as leading to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support system. (Pandey, 2003)

## CHAPTER-III

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Introduction

A systematic research needs a proper methodology to achieve the predetermined objectives. Research methodology is a sequential procedure and methods to be adopted in a systematic study. Methodology acts as a tool useful for systematic investigation of any phenomena. Research methodology may expressed in other words as process of arriving to the solution of the problem through planned and systematic dealing with collection of the data and research methodology is defined as "A careful investigation or inquire specially through search for new facts in any branch of knowledge". A purposeful investigation pertaining to a factual study can only be made possible through the visiting of tourism department.

Methodology is the study of the methods and deals with philosophical assumptions underlying a research process, while method is a specific technique for data collection under the philosophical assumption. It contributes the theory and analysis how research should be processed.

#### 3.2 Research Design

"A research design is the arrangement of conditions for collection and analysis of data in a manner that aims to combine relevance to the research purpose with economy is procedure".

Research design is helpful to manage the evidences and enquires of the study in appropriate order within the given time frame and to interpret the data. This study is based on both exploratory and descriptive research desing. In descriptive research design the study include research methods and review of related literature. Similarly, study area. Accordingly, the researcher will develop some of the instruments like the structured and unstructured questionnaire to explore the field information on different types of tourism in Kanchanpur district. In order to attain of this study descriptive, analytical research design is followed. Information is collected through different sources and is analyzed with suitable statistical method.

### **3.3 Nature and Sources of Data**

This study is based on qualitative and quantitative by nature. The study is especially based on primary and secondary sources of information. Primary data has been collected through checklist and observations. For this purpose the questionnaires were served to tourists who visit Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, local people and hotel owner to collect the primary data. Similarly, secondary data has been collected from various published and unpublished materials by the concerned organization.

Secondary data information were collected from various departments, like

- ) T.U. Centre Library and Library of Central Department of Economics.
- ) Publications of World Tourism Organization (WTO).
- ) Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Nepal tourism Board (NTB), Economic survey.
- ) Ph.D. thesis, M.A. thesis, research reports and books.
- ) Other published and unpublished seminar papers.
- ) Newspapers, journals and email-internet.

Similarly primary data were gathered through

- ) Field observation
- ) Questionnaire survey

### **3.4 Tools and Techniques of Data Collection**

#### **3.4.1 Observation**

Research involved in the observation to record the different information related to problems and prospects of tourism in the Kanchanpur district. To accomplish this task, both participant and quasi-participant observation were used. In the observation period the study was based on the observation of tourist places, local people, customs, feasts and festivals, other activities and other sacred sites.

### **3.4.2 Questionnaire Survey**

The study had undertaken the structured, semi-structured questionnaire to explore the information on problems and prospects of tourism and its impacts on both local and national economy. For these, the study was based on questionnaire from Local People, hotel businessman, tourists, elderly people, and government officials. Also it provides the information about business, educational status, expenditure pattern of the tourist and demographic data of the local informants, which was collected from tourist and hotels.

### **3.4.3 Tools of Data Collection**

Researcher used different types of the tools like questionnaire, interview in order to collect the primary information from the field. Both structured and unstructured questionnaires were used to collect quantitative information in the Kanchanpur district.

### **3.5 Method of Data Analysis**

Data analysis is the main part of the research study. There are two types of data analysis methods, in quantitative analysis data is tabulated form in database system worksheet and interpreted by using simple statistical tools. In qualitative analysis, it represents the personal feelings and experiences which are presented in sentences. In the process of data analysis the researcher classified and tabulated data, which he had collected through the various sources. In this study data were collected and tabulated manually. For different types of data different tables are prepared. Simple statistical tools were used such as percentage, average, frequency, bar, diagrams and pie chart. To fulfill the objectives of the study, data were analyzed descriptively.

## CHAPTER-IV

### PHYSICAL AND CULTURAL FEATURES OF KANCHANPUR DISTRICT

#### 4.1. Introduction

At the western tip of Nepal lies Far-Western Region a part with picturesque hills, temples and lakes. Mysterious eloquent and beautiful with faces and terrain that change dramatically ever so often, is how one describe this enigmatic part of Nepal. This part of the country is only 709 km away from the capital city Kathmandu, but due to geographical figure it takes 2 to 3 days to reach many places where the faces/people of different culture are making their livelihood. Far-Western Region has one of the most beautiful ranges of snow beeded mountains which are still unexplored. Upper it goes from hilly to mountains we see the views which beholds our breadth to capture the undefining moment.

It is surrounded on its northern side by the snow capped mountains and by the plains in its south. Its lush green forests, deep river and beautiful national parks are simply mesmerising. When the first rays of sun fall on its peaks, "It's a scene to be seen". This regions flora and fauna are a photographer's delight. Due to the wide variety of altitudinal and climatic conditions, different types of forests are found here. The climate of Far-West Region varies with the altitude. The southern part of this region has hot and humid sub-tropical climate; the central region is coller while there is alpine climate in the higher altitudes. The unique feature of Far-West is its inhabitants; infact their diversity is quite fascinating. A large number of people practice their ancient beliefs and follow indigenous religious concepts. The tribes are also synonymous with music and dance and they display a wide array of dances unique to each tribe. Certain dances have a religious significance, while other are performed for sheer entertainment.

Far-West Region boasts of many places of tourist interest. Seti and Mahakali are two zones of Far-West which is connected via Karnali Bridge, a place with magnificent view of Karnali River. The Shuklaphata Wildlife Reserve is a place where we can still find out tigers and heard of swamp deers, with many others endangered spicies of animal making us feel that we are doing our jungle safari in a royal way. Dodhara Chandani Bridge the second largest suspension bridge of Asia (1452. 16. m) is another attraction of Far-West. A fort used by Amar Sing Thapa in Dadeldhura during unifaction of Nepal is there in Far-West.

Far-West is the only land glorified by the presence of seven sisters of divinity. In addition to this, the sacred structures and wide range of temples scattered all over hilly and terai region makes Far West a complete pilgrimage for Hindu pilgrims and an appropriate destination for theologians. More than 300 years old, Shiva temple situated at Satti, Kailali district. Miraculous avatar of seven sisters of Bhagawati in the initial stage of creation, with the view of regulation of the earth and life goddess Maha Laxmi extracted from herself goddess Mahasaraswati (goddess of positive aspects) and Mahakali (goddess of negative aspects).

Kanchapur District in the Mahakali Zone in Nepal's most western district in the Terai and shares its southern and western borders with India. Its population is one of the fastest growing in the country. Mainly due to migration from the northern hills and partly due to the influx of the Tharus from adjoining districts in the east. In 1981, Kanchapur had the population of 68,863 in 2011. It increased and reached up to 377,899. The district is divided into 11 lilakas (sub-districts), 19 VDCs and one municipality Mahendranagar (<http://Farwest.com.np>)

Kanchapur is one of the districts of Mahakali zone located in the Far-Western Development Region of Nepal. The district covers an area of 1610 km<sup>2</sup>. Mahendranagar is the headquarters of the district bordering India. Political Boundary East: Kailali and Doti, West : India, North: Daldhura, South India. Major rivers are Mahakali, Mohana, Syauli, Chaughar, Wahamani, Dhanda and Chandar. Absolute location of Kanchapur district is 28°32' to 29°8' north latitude and 80°03' to 80°33' eastern longitude. Temperature maximum 40°C and minimum 03°C rainfall 1771.5 ml. Predominant language and culture Nepali, Dotaily, Tharu, Abadhi, Gurung, Newari, Sherpa, Limbu, Sunwar. Tourist attraction centers are Mahendranagar, Belauri, Singhapur, lakes and ponds.

Among total population, 65 percent are economically active. Agriculture, trade, hotel, business, foreign employment service and cottage industries are final countdown occupation. The crops production in the district are paddy, Maize, Wheat, Millet, barley, Pulses, Fruits, Vegetable etc. In Kanchapur forest covers 54 percent of its area including 311 sq km under a Wildlife Reserve. Over 36 percent land is under cultivation and 20 percent of it is irrigated. Kanchapur is one of the four districts (Banke, Bardiya, Kailali and Kanchapur) known as "Naya Muluk" i.e. annexed into territory of unified. The history behind of it is that East India company government took these four districts under their sovereign during the war with Nepal in 1841 to 1816. Later Nepal government assisted to government of East India Company to control police revolt in 1857. East India government returned these four districts



back to Nepal as a reward for settlement of internal conflict in India. Thus district Kanchanpur is part of the returned territory known as "Naya Muluk".

There is one university name farwest university. Siddhnath science campus is one of the top campuses in Nepal. In Kanchanpur district there are many rivers mainly Mahakali, Chaudhar, Mona, Dodha where as Mahakali is the main river. Other rivers like Jogbudha, Gahatadi, Kamikate, Tikkani, Tilachaur, Bangaun, Bachela, Radha, Shajli, Tati, Phuleli, Kairala, Sosa, Dodhara etc. Kanchanpur is divided in 19 VDCs and one municipality elled Mahendranagar is the main market of Kanchanpur district. After Nepal was declared republic in 2008 the city name changed to Bhim Dutta. Similarly, Jhalari, Belauri, Chaunni, Bharmadev and Goddachauki are the main trade center. The trend of migration from hill and other district of Kanchanpur is increasing over years. It has been the habitat of many caste and ethnic group.

Mahendranagar, about 270 meters about sea level, is a new settlement in the middle of a forest with the foot hills visible to the north. The place was first cleared in 1962 when the district headquarters was shifted here from Belauri on the southern border. The main East-West Street is lined up by a group of new houses made from plentiful timber. There are about two dozen shops. Apart from the hataru (marketer) from Baitadi, Dadeldhura and Doti the place is already swarmed with squatters from the hills. The place has easy link with Tanakpur ahead, about an hour's walk to the west. It is one of the major commercial places in the region. Moreover, as the zonal headquaters with 29 government offices, Mahendranagar claims primacy in managing the affairs of the entire Mahakali Zone that extends as far as 145 kilometers to the north. (District profile, 2013).

## 4.2 Climate and Demographic Situation Scorching

**Table No. 4.1: Population Distribution**

<b>Population</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Number</b>
Male	50.79	1,91,920
Female	49.21	1,85,989
Total	100	3,77,899
Rural population	78.61	2,97,066

Urban population	21.39	80,833
Population density	235 sq/km	
Population growth rate	3.28	

Source: District Profile, 2013

The climate is scorching during summer temperature ranges from 32 degrees to 42 degrees centigrade and winter temperature ranges from 3 degree to 26 degree centigrade. These two words have a monsoon type of climate. It receives most of its rainfall by monsoon winds. Monsoon rainfall occurs from Asar toe Bhadra. About 90 percent of the annual rainfall occurs dureing this summer season. Winter rain brought by westerly winds and accounts less than 10 percent of the annual rainfall.The overall rainfall ranging from about 100 to 200 cm.

According to 2011 census, total population of Kanchanpur is 377899, female 185989 and male 191910. total houses 60158 and average family number 6.28. Population density is 235 per sq km. Population increase rate 3.28 and urban population 21.39 percent, rural population 78.61 percent.

Give table no. 4.1 shows that there is Brahmins and Chhetri dominate society in terms of Caste. There is 30 percent of total population is Chhetri, which is the lead cast of this rigion. Similarly data reveal that almost of them are Hindu or 97.27 percent. And Dotaily/Nepali is the main language for this region, which is spoken by 73.81 percent of total population.

**Table No. 4.2: Population Distribution by Caste, Religion and Language**

Population		Population		Population	
Caste	Percentage	Religion	Percentage	Language	Percentage
Brahmins	17	Hindu	97.29	Dotaily/Nepali	73.81
Chhetri	30	Buddha	1.13	Tharu	18
Tharu	21	Christian	0.8	Tamang	2.19
Dalit	14	Others	0.78	Magar	1.38
Thakuri	5			Others	4.62
Others	13				

Source: District Profile, 2013

### **4.3 Social and Cultural Diversities of the Kanchanpur District**

Far Western part of Nepal including Kanchanpur has more festivals in a year. Kanchanpur district is rich in terms of religious and cultural importance. The festivals celebrated by people in Kanchanpur fully reflect the blend of all groups. The ethnic Tharu people celebrate Dhikri, Maghe festival while Brahmin and Chhetri primarily celebrate Gora (commonly called Gaura Parba), Bishu. Later Dipawali (also called Diwali) appears as a major festival which includes Laxmi Pooja, Gai Tihar, and Bhai tika. It appears the people of Kanchanpur have truly accepted all festivals as an integral part of their joyful life.

A festival is always a meaningful and memorable event in the life of Far Western people. Every festival has some purpose to serve. From bringing in the rain to honoring the dead or averting calamities, every festival has something spiritual about it. Festival is a way of life in Far West including Kanchanpur. With the number of festivals that Far West has, it is one of the best ways to understand and appreciate the Far Western ways of life. The dates of festivals are according to the Nepali calendar.

Gaura Parva (Gora) : Gaura parva is the most important festival for Far Western Region. It starts from Bhadra Saptami and celebrated for 5 or 7 days. During this period women dance-singing Mangal and Fag whereas male dance-singing famous song Deuda. The Deuda dance is a major part of the festivities in which participants hold hands and form a circle as they step to traditional music.

#### **Ethnic Variation**

Indigenous people are the Tharus but now people from all over country have migrated to the area but mostly from the districts such as Baitadi and Dedeldhura. Kanchanpur is now the unique combination of all ethnic groups representing the overall society of Nepal. There is high dominance of the Brahmin, Chhetri, Tharu and dalits. Some of the other ethnic groups also inhabitants in the Kanchanpur district like Magar, Tamang and many more. Traditional festivals, religious rites and rituals, art treasures, language, dress, dances, music and folklore have endowed the district with culturally very rich.

## **Magars**

Magar is the one of the major caste groups in Kanchanpur district. Magars are skilled craftsmen in masonry carpentry, building, stone cutting, quarrying. Their houses are built according to the style of the areas they live in, a standard which varies from one locate to the next. Most traditional is the two storey stone house with thatch or in some cases slate roofing. Many of the smaller houses in the northern part of the district are found or oval in shape and washed with mud. Most magars worship Vishnu, Mahadev, Ramchandra, Krishna, Ganesh, Lakshmi, Saraswati, Bhagavati etc. They observe the Dashain, Tihar, Sankranti and others in addition to which they observe a number of tribal occasions and festivals for worshipping. Baraha baba is the family deity of magar ethnic groups. Sorathi, Ghatu Nach are the folk dances.

## **Tharu**

Light black skinned, short but very strong people inhabited in the southern part of Nepal Terai lowland are Tharu. They are the indigenous people of Terai. It is said that the Rajput dynasty was ruling in India but the Muslim attacked and killed the Rajput king then queen and other royal family women eloped with their servants and absconded to Nepal to save their life from Muslim. They (Rana Tharu) say that Rana Tharu is the noble cast in the Tharu people. Tharu people have large extended joint families who live under a roof about 25 to 120 people. They think "united the extent and divided the fall." they live in humid and hot place near by the forest or in the forest because they wer very thin clothes. They have the unique culture, tradition and separate lancuage. They use mostly the local agro based or forest based materials for their household necessities. They usually spend their time in the agricultural field. The ladies were many different types of ornaments about 21 to 35 types. Their dress symbol is an follows: unmarried girls were Nehenga, Choli and blouse. Married without children were Nehenga, choli and Aghran (shawl). They cover their belly with aghran. The corner of aghran from bothside of the belly are thrust into Nehenga and made not in the back. Married with children wears Nehenga, choli and Aghran clothes but they do not tight or make a knot of aghran in the back. They leave their belly open. The Tharus are divided into 8 groups as follows in the different parts of the country.

Kailali and Kanchanpur-Rana Tharu

Dang- Dangaura Tharu

Bardia- Desauri Tharu

Chitwan - Chitwaniya Tharu

Deukhuri - Deukhurial Tharu Morang/Sunsari - Lampuchhuwa tharu

Parsa/Bara - Kochila Tharu

### **Marriage System of Tharu People**

A marriage is already settled that while two women are pregnant. It is proposed that if those ladies give their birth of opposite sex babies they will get married if the same sex babies they will be joint friends. If a boy comes to the age and leaves his wife and wants to marry a new one that is difficult to get a new one because most of the girls and boys are already proposed to get married. Elopement takes places in the society because of big difference in age of husband.

### **Tharus biggest festival Holi and Maghi**

The greatest festival of Rana and most Tharu people is Holi that lies between March and April. They celebrate Holi festival for about a month. This is only one society in Nepal in which the ladies without children are free for a month. The ladies can go any Tharu society, can enjoy and can make many boys and girl friends. Dangaura Tharu's biggest festival is Maghi that lies between January and February and it is celebrated for a month. Their interesting dance-Dakhia Nach is held for 6 months starting from September in which the boys play the drums/trums/tom-tom and girls sing while dancing together.

### **Tamang**

Belauri (Punarbasi) is home town of Tamang in Kanchanpur district. They are here from many years. Belauri is located 30 km east from Mahendranagar municipality the Headquarter of Kanchanpur district. Most of them are buddhist. In this community, weaving and writing is two different symbolic icons on the basis of sex.

Symbolically weaving indicates women's work, reputation, role and writing indicates man's role and work in this community or society representative like 'Lama'. But in this community no far differences between male and female on social status.

It is found from field survey that after marriage, women continuing their skills and work in their husband house. And because of writing male became a Lama but women never be. Their tradition and religion never give permission to women to become a Lama. After field

survey we can see the socio-economic condition of this community is middle class. Agriculture and Business is their main occupation of source of income.

### **Nath Culture**

Some Brahmin, Chhetri on other caste society people, when they are frustrated and tired of their domestic lives, renounce the sophisticated life and become Sadhu mendicants, wearing only saffron robes, iving upon alms and charity, and spending their days primarily in meditaion and recitation of sacred texts. But in this process some take a wife, on female Sadhu's a husband, and produce children. These children, since their progenitors have renounced their caste status, can not claim caste or go to back to caste socirty. Such people are called Sanyashi. There re many Sannyashi. They can take up any profession they want to follow, but majority of them become temple priests, Yogi or Nath and Mahat-treasures of Mahadev temple endowments.

## **4.4 Agriculture Production, Trade and Industry**

**Table No. 4.3: Agriculture, Land and productivity**

<b>Corn</b>	<b>Area (Hector)</b>	<b>Product (M.T.)</b>
Rice	46618	123538
white	32491	90745
Vegetable	4006	20716
Sugarcane	5886	220716
Oil product	3148	12455

Source: District Profile, 2013

Agriculture development is vital to the progress of Kanchanpur, because more than 79 percent of population depend on agriculture for their livelihood. The main agricultural products of Kanchanpur are paddy, wheat, maize, oilseeds. In order to diversity the activities of agriculture development a new department of Horticulture is created and geared up to provide more emphasis on the development of Horticulture cash crops including ginger, potato, vegetable and flower. Kanchanpur is also the production is of cow, buffalo, goat, pig,

chicken, duck, fish etc. These products can be shown in following table. Above table no. 4.3 shows that rice corn has captured biggest area i.e. 46618 hector of total land. But it has only 2.65 metric ton productivity per hector. Sugarcane has highest or 37.5 metric ton productivity per hector.

In decade of 2020 B.S. saw mill, brick Tayal industry were established. The 2030 to 2040 B.S. there were raw material basis industry. After then all fruit and vetetable industry, poultry farming, fishing diry and all small home industry has been running employment basis industry are more than others. In tourism sector only hotels are included. All productive and agricultural industry fulfills districts need. Those industries also supply product to Far Western Region. Some plastic and row material basis industry export some product to India. Main production of Kanchanpur is paddy, wheat, sugarcane, fish, fruits etc. annually 50000 quintal rice, 30000 quintal wheat and 10000 quintal mustard are exported to other district. Other production is oil, Gram, sesame, mustard, pigeon pea etc. In Kanchanpur we get Western, Continental, Nepali, Indian, Chinese food in tourist standard restaurant, Kheer (pudding), Sel Roti (Fox bread), Tama (bamboo shoots) and specially the local food is Mada, Batku, Nissosya and Dhikri.

Ther are four titled industries registered in Kanchanpur district that can be shown in following table no. 4.4.

**Table No 4.4Types of Industry**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Types of industry</b>	<b>Registered Industries</b>
1	Small home industry	1025
2	Tourism industry	5
3	Agricultural industry	675
4	Others	45
Total		1750

Source: District Profile, 2010

Table no. 4.4 shows that 890 industries are registred in Kanchanpur district. Among them 675, productive industries are established which is highest number of total industries. Only 5 tourism industry is established as lowest number.

But Kanchanpur district have not developed as big industrial sector. In perspective of trade of Mahendranagar is main industrial sector in Kanchanpur district. There are 1025 small and cottage industry recorded in 2070. Among them now only four hundred fifteen industries are running. Kanchanpur district linked with open Indian border. It is very useful for export and import. There is not easy way of transportation from India. So Kanchanpur have to depend on Kailali district to import raw material from India. It's one cause of back warding industry of Kanchanpur district.

Government has been planning for developing industrial sector of Kanchanpur since 2037 B.S. But no any planning has been implied in practice. Likewise there is lack businessman for investment in small and medium business. The district has more probability of big industry. For that 13 km of Brahmadev road and Daiji-Jogbuda linking with boarder road should be constructing in time. Lack of these facilities there is not any probability at big industry. If no any planning should be making, its sure one day small and cottage industry would have collapsed.

#### **4.5 Transportation and Accommodation Facilities**

##### **Domestic Air Service**

Nepal Airlines has an extensive network of air services in the interior of Nepal including Dhgangadhi and Tikapur of Kailali, It has also scheduled connection flights from Kathmandu to Bajura, Baitadi, Dipayal and Sanfebagar of Far Western Region. Besides Nepal Airlines, other domestic airlines such as Buddha Air, Sita Air, and eti Airways provide regular and charter services to popular domestic destinations. Mahendranagar is only 53 km. far from Dhgangadhi airport.

##### **Local Buses**

There are many buses, minibuses and microbuses available at Mahendranagar Bus Park which departs to different desinations in the Kanchanpur, Kailali, and other place. Tempose are also available for service.



## **Riksa**

Three wheeler Riksa can be found any time in daytime and evening. It is easy and cheap medium of transportation. People of the study area use Riksa inside the Mahendranagar Bazaar. But there is lack of night service in transportation service in Kanchanpur.

## **Long Distance Bus Services**

Long distance day or night bus services are available from Mahendranagar to all cities of Nepal. A bus park has been constructed at the heart of the city, from where buses depart for the different destinations. Six seater sumo tata van, 12 seater van and air-conditioned bus also available for long distance travel. There is a domestic airport in Mahendranagar, but the lack of management and passenger air service is temporary shutdown. Bus service connects Mahendranagar to all the other parts of the country. Mahendra Highway, the longest highway of Nepal has its one end in Mahendranagar the other being in eastern city Kakarbhitta and is also connected by some of the sub highways with the hill towns of Dipayal, Baitadi, Amargadhi and Darchula. Road transport is also linked with bordering India to Banbasa and Tanakpur through the bridges in Mahakali river making Mahendranagar the nearest city of Nepal from New Delhi, the capital of city of India.

**Table No 4.5: Distance from Mahendranagar to different places in Kanchanpur district**

<b>S.N</b>	<b>Places</b>	<b>Distance from Mahendranagar (in km.)</b>
1	Baisi Bichawa	17
2	Beldandi	9
3	Chandani	10
4	Daijee	3
5	Dekhatbhuli	11
6	Dodhara	11
7	Jhalari	6
8	Kalika	18
9	Krishanpur	15
10	Pipaladi	7
11	Mahendranagar	0

12	Raikawar Bichawa	17
13	Rampur Bilaspur	16
14	Sankarpur	15
15	Sreepur	16
16	Suda	2
17	Tribhuwan Bastu	3

District profile, 2013

**Table No 4.6: Simillary Distance from Mahendranagar to different important places**

S.N	Place	Distance in km.
1	Kathmandu	709
2	Dhangadhi airport	53
3	Nepalgunga airport	220
4	New Delhi	350
5	Haridwar	350
6	Deheradun and Mansuri	365
7	Nanitall	150
8	India Border	6

District profile, 2013

#### **FM Stations and News Papers of Kanchanpur District**

- ) Shuklaphanta FM 99.4 MHz
- ) Mahakali FM 96.2 MHz
- ) Farwest Times
- ) Chure Times
- ) Mahendranagar Post
- ) Abhiyan Daily
- ) Paschim Nepal Daily

Accommodation facilities in Kanchanpur District

Kanchanpur has not every category of accommodation facilities that range from the international standard star hotels to budget hotels and lodges. But there are many local hotels, lodges and some big Restaurants and resorts. These hotels have not sufficient facilities for the tourists. But they can fulfill the minimum requirement for the tourists that can play supportive role for tourist attraction. Now days Kanchanpur provides facilities of accomodation through number of newly built hotels, restaurants and lodges. Different standard of rooms are available at reasonable price. These hotels, restaurants and lodges serve popular Nepali, Indian and continental foods.

**Table No. 4.7: International and internal tourist levels hotels in Kanchanpur**

S.N.	Name	Numbers of rooms	Numbers of beds
1	Hotel Opera	31	50
2	Hotel Gangotri Plazi	20	32
3	Hotel Sweet Dreem	18	30
4	Hotel New Anand	28	38
5	Hotel Anand	14	16
6	Hotel Annapurna	23	32
7	Hotel Shangam	14	15
8	Hotel Tera	13	16

District profile, 2013`

#### **4.6 Flora and Fauna**

Kanchanpur district is rich in its forest wealth in fact forest constitute 88,200 hector of the total area of Kanchanpur. Which is an important source of wealth, the state is bestowed with abundant natural resources. It has tremendous biodiversity and will have been identified as one of the hot spot for biodiversity. The major attraction of Kanchanpur is bar, peepal, sal, khait, sisso, we can find swamp deer, leopard, jackals, langur, barking deer, hog deeg, blue bull, rhesus monkey and rhinoceros. One horned rhinoceros, tiger, elephant, bird species including sarus, crane grass owl, warblers, flycatcher, Bengal florida, swamp francolin, reties like marsh mugger crocodile, cobra, python etc.

## 4.7 Education

Kanchanpur district is historical and important district in the aspect of education. There is secondary school to university level. There are 186 primary school, 58 lower secondary schools, 63 secondary school, 17 higher secondary school, 8 campuses and one university. Siddhath science campus is one of the top campuses in Nepal. Mahendranagar is a major provider of education, health and employment opportunities in west Nepal. Mahakali Zonal Hospital and other private hospitals provide health care. Similarly, Farwest University Siddhanath Science Campus, Siddhanath Multiple Campus, Mahendranagar Medical College, Radiant Higher Secondary School, Adarsh College (Brixton College), International Public Higher Secondary School and other colleges provide advanced education. That is why students from other regions migrate here for education. Literacy rate of male is 72.8 percent, female 47.2 percent.

## 4.8 Economically Active Population in Kanchanpur

According to population census 2011 about 149706 of the total population are economically active in the Kanchanpur district. Among them 109253 people are working in agriculture and forestry, 20340 in wholesale and retail trade, 5055 people working in hotels and restaurant. 64 percent of total population is economically active in Kanchanpur district.

**Table No. 4.8: Economically active population over by major industry division of Kanchanpur**

S.N.	Description	Total number of people
1	Agriculture and forestry	109253
2	Wholesale and retail trade	20340
3	Education	4338
4	Not state	10720

District profile, 2013

## 4.9 Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve

### a) Introduction

Shuklaphanta Wildlife reserve is a protected area in the terai of the Far-Western Region, Nepal and covering 305 sq km (118 sq mi) of open grassland, forests, riverbeds and tropical wetlands at an altitude of 174 to 1,386 metres (571 to 4,547 ft). A small part of the reserve extends north of the East-West Highway to create a corridor for seasonal migration of wildlife into the Sivalik Hills. In the West which is formed by the Mahakali River and to the north by a forest belt and cultivations. The Syali River forms the eastern boundary southward to the international boarder with India. the India Tiger Rederve Kishanpur Wildlife Sanctuary is contiguous in the south, this coherent protected area of 439 sq km represents the Tiger Conservation Unit (TCU) Suklaphanta-Kishanpur, which covers a 1.897 sq km block of alluvial grasslands and subtropical moist deciduous forests.

A total of 24 mammal species was recorded by Schaff (1978), a total of 350 species of birds of which 180 are breeding species (Inskipp, 1989), Bhatt and Shrestha (1977) provide an annotated list of 14 species of fish, Schaff (1978) recorded 10 species of ectoparasites and biting flies. Although the area of the reserve is small, it supports a wide range of biodiversity which is naturally and globally important. The vegetation types primarily include sal forest, sal savanna, which is part of continuum between climax forest and grassland that is maintained by fire and floods. The reserve supports the largest population of Bengal florican *Houbaropsis benalensis* and swamp deer *cervus duvauceli*.

The area was a favorite hunting ground for Nepal's ruling class and was declared a Royal Hunting Reserve in 1969. In 1973 the area was gazetted as Royal Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve, initially comprising of 155 sq km, and extended to its present size in the late 1980s. A buffer zone of 243.5 sq km was added in May 2004.

The reserve offers a variety of experience with its diverse interior and abundant wildlife forest. Stream and rivers, lakes and several large phantas, for which is named comprise the habitat at the reserve. Sal trees dominate the forests, Khair, Sisso forest is found along the river side area. The main grass species of the phantas include *imperata cylindrical* and *heteropogon contortus*, which are used for thatching by the local people. The undisturbed habitat of the reserve has allowed its ecosystem to flourish. The protection of the

swamp deer, and other endangered species has been success. The herd currently stands at about 2000 individuals. This is slightly larger than the only other large herd in the world at Dudwa National Park India. The reserve is home to about 25 to 30 wild elephant and endangered species, which seems to live a constant trail of destruction. About 35 royal Bengal tigers, endangered species, inhabit the reserve preying on the abundant spotted deer. This is of the highest densities of tiger in the range countries.

Shuklaphata Wildlife Reserve is also home to blue bull, barking deer, hog deer, wild boar, leopard, jack's, langur and rhesus monkey. There is one long rhinoceros in the reserve. In addition to that four greater one horned rhinoceros were translocated from Chitwan National Park in 2000 AD. The reserve provide habitat for about 30 species of birds, including sarus crane, swamp francolin, grass owl, warblers, flycatcher, and the endangered Bengal florican. The reserve is home to 21 species of fish including the mahaseer, rohu and tenger. The reserve also houses a diverse population of reptiles like the merss mugger crocodile, cobra and python.

Any trip of Shuklaphata Wildlife Reserve must start at Majagaun, a pleasant village home to most of the reserve staff and headquarters. Within the reserve there are number of human made waterholes. These were created to attract animals away from the poaching prone Mahakali river improve habitat. Much of Shuklaphata's wildlife and bird's life visit these areas. The areas surrounding water hole are great for seeing animal food print. Salgoudi Lake is extremely pretty and has abundance to bird life. There is much (view Tower) from which egrets, herons, storks, eagles and many of the animals can be seen including elephants'.

Rani Lakel is also habitat of bird life. Singhpur phanta is the former location of small Tharu village and is now a flour sowing grass land. Tharus are the main indigenous ethnic group of the area. This area is true elephant and wildlife sighting are common. The largest grass inside the reserve is Suklaphanta 'white grass land'. When the grass blooms in winter the seed head is a magnificent white. In winter, swamp deer herds from here saw great numbers. This Shuklaphanta is managed by controlled burning to help produce suitable habitat for the swamp deer. This is very good place to take an elephant ride, as there are several small ponds that draw wild life to them. To the north on a clear day, the Nanda Devi Himal can be seen. In Barkola there is an army post. In the jungle there has a wide variety of tree species. The Terrain is rougher with small hills. This area has many elephant sightings, mostly at night and early morning.

The park has three seasons. From October through early April weather is dry. The days are warm and pleasant, and the nights are cool. From April to June the temperatures warm up into the 40 degree centigrade range. The hot sticky days give way to monsoon rains that last until September. The reserve is accessible by road from any part of the country and from India. A night bus from Kathmandu takes about 18 hours to get Kanchanpur. The Shuklaphata Wildlife Reserve headquarters is 8 km. south to west of Mahendranagar. There is no regular public transportation to the headquarters but riksha, tempos or sometime jeeps are available. There is one hotel peering within the reserve. It is located on the bank of the Bahuni Nadi. Other hotels can be found in Mahendranagar. The elephant camp is located in Pipariya. Elephant for riding can also be found in Shuklaphata. (Source: Shuklaphat Wildlife Reserve, Majhgaon, Kanchanpur)

## **b) General Information**

**Established: 1976**

### **Climate**

The area has a tropical monsoon climate with four different seasons: winter, spring, summer and monsoon. The months of December and January are fairly cold and misty with occasional frost. The mean monthly minimum temperature varies from 10<sup>0</sup>C to 12<sup>0</sup>C in winter, gradually rising to 17<sup>0</sup>C in the spring and 26C in the summer. Over 90 percent of the annual precipitation falls during monsoon between June and September. Mean maximum temperatures and 40<sup>0</sup>C to 42<sup>0</sup>C in summer (April-May), when hot westerly winds of up to 160 km. per four hour have been recorded. In February and March, the maximum temperature rises up to 22<sup>0</sup>C to 25C. the relative humidity remains fairly high through out the year except in the dry months of the pre monsoon period.

**Annual Rainfall: 1000 ml**

**Eco-Zone : Terai**

## Physical Features

East	West	North	South
<p>the east of the park extends along the canal through the Beldandi village development committed area (VDC). It also extends to the Syali river in the east and to the Siwaliks in the north east corner Thence in an Easterly direction following the edges of cultivation of Pataiya, Andaiya, Chukuwa and Jhimila village settlements in a South direction until it meets the Nepal/Indian international border.</p>	<p>thence from the Nepal/Indian International Border following Northwards along the Mahakali river to the point of commencement near pepriya. The western boundary of the reserve runs along the western bank of Mahakali river. Mahendranagar Municipality, the headquarters of Kanchanpur district, is located in the north west of the reserve.</p>	<p>The north-east corner extends to the Siwaliks. Mahendranagar Municipality, the headquarters of Kanchanpur district is situated to the north west of the reserve. From a point on the bank of the Mahakali river near pepriya following along the edges of forest and cultivation to Majhgaon, Ultakham and Gobriya Nala to the Chandhar Khola.</p>	<p>Thence Westwards following along the Nepal/Indian International Border. The southern boundary runs along the Nepal/India border for 15 km.</p>

## Geographical Features

Longitude	80 <sup>0</sup> 30' - 80 <sup>0</sup> 33'
Latitude	28 <sup>0</sup> 32' - 29 <sup>0</sup> 8'
Altitude	270m
Park H.Q	Mahendranagar
District	Kanchanpur
Area (sq km)	1610 sq.km
Annual Rainfall (ml)	1000ml



(Source: <http://www.dnpwc.gov.np>) and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuklaphanta>)

### c) Features

#### History

In 1969, it was declared as Hunting Reserve and was a famous hunting area. In July 1976 an area of 155 sq km was gazetted as a Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve to protect Nepal's last remaining herd of swamp deer (*Cervus duvaucalli*). It was later extended to its current size of 305 sq km.

#### Heritage Significance

Temple of Singphal the centuries old temple of Singphal, devoted to Lord Shiva is situated about 1 km east of Rani Tal. This small shrine at first appears to be only a pile of rocks, but after a few minutes inspection reveals that the rocks are carved and very very old. This gives you a reminder of just how old the civilizations in this part of the world really are. During Dasai festival of late September or early October, Hindus still perform animal sacrifices here.

#### Place of Interest

The extensive open grassland of the reserve serves for breathtaking views of the herds of Swamp Deer in the world. Casually in the flock, Hog Deer (*Axis porcinus*) with its squat hog like appearance and movements appear. Grassland birds are also very fascinating and attractive. Wetlands such as Rani Tal, Sikari Tal, and other extension area viz. Kalikitch Lake, Lalpani Tal and Tara Tal also provide halting place for waterfowls. Rani Tal about 17 km from Majgaon the park headquarter is a beautiful lake for viewing waterfowl from machan or viewing towers. Near Rani Tal is the ancient Temple of Singphal, devoted to Lord Shiva. Salgoudi Tal (Lake) is extremely pretty and has an abundance of birdlife. There is a Machan (View tower) from which egrets, herons; storks, eagle and many of the animals can be seen including elephants.

Other wild animals in the reserve are wild elephant *Elephas maximus*, tiger (*Panthera Tigris*), hispid hare (*Caprolagus hispidus*), blue bull (*Boselaphus tragocamelus*), leopard (*Panthera pardus*), chital (*Zaxis axis*), hog deer (*Zix porcinus*), and wild boar (*Sus scrofa*). A total 268 species of birds has been recorded in the reserve. Many grassland birds along with the rare

Bengal florican are seen in the phantas. Marsh mugger crocodile, Indian python, monitor lizard and snakes like cobra, Krait, and rat snake are recorded in the reserve. Wetlands such as Ranital, Sikarital and others in the extension area like Kalikitch Lake, Lalpanital and Taratal, support a healthy population of many kinds of waterfowl, reptiles and other wildlife.

### **Accommodation and Route**

The reserve is accessible by the road as well as air. The reserve will be easily accessible by road from any parts of Nepal with the completion of the far-western sector of East-West Highway. There is once a week flight from Kathmandu to Dhangadhi which is 61 km far from the park headquarters. There is regular public bus service from Dhangadhi to Mahendranagar taking 1 and half hours drive and the reserve headquarters is 5 km south-west of Mahendranagar. The reserve can be reached by East-West Highway through Nepalgunj-Dhangadhi Mahendranagar. There is one hotel operating within the reserve. It is located on the bank of the Bahuni Nadi (River). Other hotels can be found in Mahendranagar. The Elephant Camp is located in Pipriya.

### **Elephant Safari**

Elephant's safari is one of the most popular activities in Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. Times and experience have provide that the best way to view animals in the wild is from a top an elephant. In Shuklaphanta elephant back safari is experience the wildlife in its national habitat. This is a unique once in a life time experience and great opportunity to see wildlife. Such as differnt kinds of deer, rhinoceros, bore, monkey, leopard, sloth bear and the Royal Bengal tiger.

### **Tharu Culture Program**

The "Tharu" means that Local community of people in Kanchanpur. The people are the indigenous inhabitants of the tarai region of Nepal and have been the caretakers of the tropical forests of Nepal for centuries. Todsays; there culture is a most vibrant one, with tharu dances being demonstrated and exhibited in lodges and in their community center.

## **Jungle Walk and Bird Watching**

On a bird-watching trip, tourist will be guided by a native naturalist through the grassland of Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. There are hundreds of migratory and native birds that tourist can catch a glimpse of at shooting range. This enables tourist to see birds and other wildlife at close range. Jungle walks are usually carried out in small groups and are escorted by professional guides. Jungle walks comprise of an exhaustive observation of the diverse special found in the park from insects. (Source: <http://www.dnpwc.gov.np>, <http://wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuklaphanta> and [www.hotalsnepal.com](http://www.hotalsnepal.com))

## **Vegetation**

Some 54.7 percent of the reserve is covered by mixed deciduous forest, grassland and marsh in the south west where soils are of recent alluvium. The rest is moist deciduous forest and savanna, supported by the better drained soils on higher terrain in the north east (Balson, 1976). The main vegetation types distinguished by Schaff (1978a, 1978b) are: sal shorea robusta forest; sal savanna, which is part of a continuum between climax forest and grassland that is maintained by fire or floods; mixed deciduous forest, which is patchily distributed among the more extensive grasslands in the south-west (sal is absent); grasslands, which may be dry (locally known as phanta) or wet in the case of areas inundated during the monsoon; lowland savanna, which occurs on the fringes of all main grasslands and covers most of Karaiya phanta; khair-sissoo forest, dominated by *Acacia catechu* and *Dalbergia sissoo* and forming an early succession in riverine areas; and marsh, in which tall dense grasses are predominant (e.g. *Phragmites karka*, *Saccharum spontaneum* and *Sclerostachya fusca*). (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuklaphanta>)

### **4.10 Suspension Bridge (Jhulange Pul)**

Suspension bridge in Mahakali River to join one and only island (Dodhara and Chadani) of Nepal near Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve is one of the main attractions of this district having length of 1496.5 meter. It is the second largest bridge of the Asia. Many local people are facilitating by this bridge since it is over the Mahakali River. Many people come there to observe the attractive and unique construction of the bridge. It is constructed by the great help of Japan. Though it is very long its width is not enough to drive four wheeler vehicles. Now days it is famous place for picnic spot. It is also important place of domestic tourist.

#### **4.11 Religious Centers in Kanchanpur District**

##### **a) Shivadham Temple**

Shivadham temple is one of the most important religious and historical sites, which is situated in Mahendranagar-4 Kanchanpur. The temple was established by Baba Ramdev with the help of Gauri Sankar Agrawal in 1982. By carrying the Linga from Narmada, Narmadeshore Linga, they established this temple. Baba Ramdev had stayed here for twenty-six years during his lifetime. When the Baba was died in 2060 B.S, his dead body was burned and made a Samadhi for remembrance. Many devotees and historical person like Sankaracharya have visited this temple since the time of its establishment. Many people worship God in this temple as daily puja. Kirtan and Yogya are common in this temple. Saturday and Monday are special day for worshipping God Shiva in this temple. Dashain and Chaite Dashain and Maha Shivaratri are the main festival for worshipping god and visiting this temple. The facilities for visitors like road, accomodaiton, electricity and other infrastructure are available. Similarly, Mandap and Haban Kund are also available for religious function. Thus this temple has religious, cultural and historical importance, which can be helpful to attract both domestic and international tourists. For all tourist groups like pilgrimage, religious tourist, entertainment group and cultural tourist, this temple has great value. From all these aspect this temple has high possibility of tourist attraction.

##### **b) Niglasaini Bhagawati Temple**

Another most important religious site of Kanchanpur district is Niglasaini Bhagawati temple which is situated in Mahendranagar, Kanchanpur. Long ago one saint brought statue and established the temple. The temple was rebuilt in 2033 B.S. People worship goddess Bhagwati twice a month assuming Bhagwati as a part of goddess parvati. Dashain and Chaite Dashain are main festival celebrating in the temple. At Ghatasthapana, jamara are kept in the temple and local people pray god by doing for fulfillment of their wishes.

##### **c) Bishnu Temple**

Nepal is very rich not only in natural beauties but also in place of god and goddess. So it is said that Nepal is the country of nature and culture. Bishnu temple is the main form of Bishnu god; it is habitate of Bishnu god. It is located in Kanchanpur, Mahendranagar municipality.

Long ago a shepherd boy found the statue of lord Bishnu, after then the statue was worshiped as god Bishnu in that place. The temple had been established by Brahman family with support of other local people. Now a day the temple is repaired by local people. It is one of the important place of char Dham of Hindu religion. many religious visitors from Nepal and other country visit this temple.

d) Radha Krishna Temple

Another important religious site of the place is Radha Krishna temple, which is situated in Mahendranagar-4 Kanchanpur. The accurate information about this temple is not available but according to mythological tale, any one individual established it, which is still unknown. Lalmani established Baidik Yagyashala in 2059 B.S. Specially, this temple is famous for religious function for Hindu like Saptaha, marriage and Bratabanda. Due to the availabliity of the facilities like Dhungedhara for water, electricity, Dharmashala, many people come here for these functions. The arrival should pay many for use of these facilities. Thus this temple has not only importance for tourist attraction but also for income generation.

e) Siddhanath Temple

Siddhanath temple is situated in Mahendranagar-4, Kanchanpur. The temple was established in 2011 B.S. Falgun 18 on the occasion of Mahasivaratri. At that time, King Mahendra had come and observed this temple. After Fagu Purnima prayers came to visit this temple. Worshiper from different parts of Nepal and India visit the Siddhanath Temple (Siddha Baba) during special occasions (Purnagiri Mela), as it believed that a pilgrimage to Purnagiri-Siddhababa ensure fulfillment of all that the pilgrim desires. At Sivaratri and Teez, the large numbers of pilgrimage come here. The temple is also rich in terms of fauna, flora and other natural beauty. Thus the temple and its area have great possibility for tourist attraction.

g) Baijyanath Temple

Bijayanath temple also known as the temple of god Shiva is situated in Mahendranagar-1, Kanchanpur. It has great religious value for Hindus people. This temple has its own history about the establishment. According to the mythological tale, the shepherd boys used to worship here by offering flag, cupper etc since ancient time. God Shiva's follower had established this temple in ancient period. This temple is famous for Fagu Purnima, Dashain,

Chaite Dashain and Sivaratri. Daily puja is common in this temple. Marriage, Bratabanda and other religious function are celebrated according to Hindu culture at different seasons. For these function party house and Yagyashala is established by Prabhakar Joshi and Nabin respectively in 2059. This temple is reconstructed in 2060 B.S. This is the place of religious importance. Similarly, the place is full of natural beauty, fauna, flora and other scenic attraction, which are the main pillar for tourist attraction.

#### **4.12 Famous Lakes and Other Places in Kanchanpur**

##### **a) Rani Lake**

Rani Lake is an important lake in Kanchanpur. It is sorrowed by Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve. Rani Lake is a natural lake that is nestled in the forest. It provides excellent habited for a truly impressive variety of bird life. Many of the reserves wildlife can be observed around the lake from the machan. Near the Lake is the ancient temple of Singphal, devoted to lord Shiva. During the Dashain festivals, Hindus come here to worship Singphal.

##### **b) Jhilmila Lake**

Jhilmila Lake is not only naturally important but also the importance of bird habital. Jhilmila Lake is situated at north border market of Brahmdev.. It is the most important natural heritage of Kanchanpur. The lake has covered area of 2 km. It has ever green blue water with many beautiful and attractive species of fish. There is a small temple near by a lake. It is surrounded by dense forest. It is said that, anyone who can walk all around the lake area is able to please the god and succeed to fulfill his wishes. The lake has strange atmosphere and climate because if anyone visit the lake in warm summer he can feel cool weather as winter likewise if he visit the lake in winter he feel warm as summer. It is very deep around 45 fit on which we can see beautiful lotus and here birds murmuring all the time. The lake is also famous for religious spot. A visitor can feel peace and divinely attraction after having sight of this lake. The lake can play an important role to attract internal and external tourist since it has amazing atmosphere natural beauty and religious creed. This lake has an ancient believe of goddess and richness of natural beauty. Currently this lake is conserved by JRDS Nepal with joint venture and support of WTLCP, for itsw development and conservation to make this lake a tourism destination of Kanchanpur.

c) Chovar Lake

Chovar lake is located near the Belauri bazaar. It is known as the ornament of Kanchanpur district. It has abundance of birds and surrounded by green jungle. Chovar Tal is also important place of domestic tourist.

d) Bedkot Lake

Bedkot Lake is another important lake in Kanchanpur district. the lake at Daiji VDC 5 in Kanchanpur is being developed as a spot of religious and tourism importance for tourists and visitors. The lake at an altitude of 1400 meters on lap of Chure hill is a waiting proper preservation because of lack of proper clean up. The four hecter area lake is located at the dense forest 8 kms from east-west highway and 21 kms from the headquarter Mahendranagar. The lake is now developing asentertainment park, a picnic spot with running boating after it was cleaned up.

The lake is also interspersed with hundreds of fruits and flower trees around, entertainment spots and plenty of birds of various species. The lake has ancient inscriptions depicting the doteli culture. A wall was constructed by raising the surface of the lake in association with the ministry for culture, tourism and civil aviation. There lies the important religious shrine of Baijanath temple beside it. A large number of devotees also visit the temple after taking a dip in the lake in Magh Shukla Dashmi day. A fair weather road reaches the lake from jogbodha of Dadeldhura district. People believe that taking a bath in the lake cures all disease of skin. As the mythology, the king of Lanka Rawan had received in blessing the lord Shiva himself and was taking the lord inn the form of rock. On complaints of the gods lord Bishnu disguising himself as a cow herder stopped him and lord Shiv, the rock dropped here.

e) Rivers

Mahakali, Chaudhar, Dodha and Mohona River are main rivers in Kanchanpur district. Other river are supplementasry river like jogbudha, Gahatadi Kanikate, Tikvani, Tilachaur, Bangaun, Shukha, Rautela, Gauji, Chnepane, Bachela, tatopani, Sangadha, Basantkhola, Radha, Shayali, Tati, Phuleli, Dodhara, Gadi, Banhara, Janunawadi,

Mahendranagar is naturally enhanced by the beautiful Mahakali River that runs in between Nepal and India. The main tributaries that filter into the Mahakali River, namely:

Limpiyadhura and Chamelia. The Mahakali River's namesake belongs to the Hindu goddess of 'courage and rage'. It is interesting to note that the name is not commonly used amongst the Nepalese people who generally refer to it as 'Kali', while in India it is known as 'Sharda'.

f) Mahendra Park

Mahendra Park was established by late king Mahendra. It is located at the corner of the mahendranagar market. It has spread over an area of 1=5 bigha. Mahendra park is only one attractive and beautiful park of Mahendranagar.



## CHAPTER - V

### DATA PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS

#### 5. Introduction

This section based on the overall analysis of the filed that the researcher had acquired through the filed study. In the process of the analysis, researcher highlights the overall view of tourist, hotel businessman and local people on tourism development. To justify the statements the researcher had used both qualitative and quantitative methods. Both primary and secondary data are tabulated and analyzed descriptively.

#### 5.1 Tourist Arrivals in Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve and Revenue Generation

Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve (SWR) opened its door to foreigners in 1973. According to records only 88 tourists arrived at Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve in fiscal year 1998/1999. The following table depicts the inconsistent trend of tourist arrival in SWR.

The number of tourist arrivals was 521 in fiscal year 1999/2000 and it decrease in only 18 in fiscal year 2004/2005. It shows that the visit Nepal year 1998 could be successes but during the conflict 2004-2006 periods its trend is negative. The decreasing rate was not only found in the Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve however such decreasing found through out the country. There are the several causes behind it like Moaoist insurgency, instable government, destruction of the infrastructure development and mostly insecurity problem. Table no. 5.1 shows that the wavering trend of tourist arrivals in SWR. Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve has earned Rs. 1730991.70 in fiscal year 2001/2002 in which there is quite decreasing in fiscal year 2011/2012 in this year SWR earned only Rs. 812400.00. In fiscal yuear 2013/2014 SWR earned Rs. 437857.00.

**Table No. 5.1: Status of tourists visiting in Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve and Revenue generation**

<b>Fiscal year</b>	<b>Total tourist</b>	<b>Revenue generation (in Rs.)</b>
1998/1999	88	-
1999/2000	521	-
2000/2001	1765	-
2001/2002	882	1730991.70
2002/2003	696	952578.27
2003/2004	995	971314.44
2004/2005	18	469765
2005/2006	165	523770.00
2006/2007	337	631871.07
2007/2008	1586	2419214.53
2008/2009	606	1552950.25
2009/2010	57	1664096.57
2010/2011	352	717959.00
2011/2012	1420	1354001.00
2012/2013	250	812400.00
2013/2014	493	437857.00

Source: Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve, Majhgaon, Kanchanpur

The limited tourist arrival in the SWR due to various reasons. The infrastructure facilities like roads, hotels, travel agencies, well-trained guides and packed food, communication and electric power is not yet developed for support tourism development around SWR. To attract sizable number of foreigner and Indian tourists requires substantial improvement, advertisement and publicity, investment in infrastructure facilities and services. The lack of government priority and commitment for the development of SWR is also a deterrent to tourism development. Similarly a significant factor, which presently seems to affect tourism in SWR centers on poor quality of facilities for tourism market. Except the scenic beauty, all other tourist products need substantial renovation.

## 5.2 Distribution of Tourist by Region

The records have shown that 1420 tourists arrival in Shulakphant wildlife Reserve from different region in fiscal year 2011/2012, out of these 1331 tourists are domestic tourist similarly 35 tourists from SAARC region and only 54 tourists from out side the SAARC region (foreigners). If fiscal year 2012/2013 only 16 tourist came from out side the SAARC region, where as 25 tourist were belongs to SAARC region and 209 tourist from internal source. Similarly in fiscal year 2013/2014 only 31 tourist came from out side the SAARC region, where as 94 tourist were belongs to SAARC region and only 368 tourist from internal source, which is quite negative trend for travel.

**Table No. 5.2: Distribution of tourist by region**

<b>Fiscal year</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Number</b>
2011/2012	Foreigners	54
	SAARC	35
	Nepalese	1331
	Total	1420
2012/2013	Foreigners	16
	SAARC	25
	Nepalese	209
	Total	250
2013/2014	Foreigners	31
	SAARC	94
	Nepalese	368
	Total	493

Source: Shulakphant Wildlife Reserv, Kanchanpur

## 5.3 Distribution of Tourist by Nationality

Kanchanpur district is migrated area for Makhali Zone, so domestic tourists are not formally recorded. Likewise Indian tourists' arrival in Kanchanpur is not recorded separately due to problem of open border between Nepal and India. During the field survey, researcher concerned with different hotels and offices. The records have shown that there are 44 tourists

arrival in Kanchanpur from different countries. Table no. 5.3 shows the distribution of tourism by nationality.

The table shows that Kanchanpur attracts tourists from different countries. The available data shows that the highest number of tourists from India, which is 36.36 percent and lowest, is 4.54 percent which is from Holland.

**Table No. 5.3: Distribution of Tourist by Nationality**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Countries</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1	Indian	16	36.36
2	USA	13	29.54
3	UK	3	6.81
4	Japan	4	9.09
5	Denmark	3	6.81
6	Switzerland	3	6.81
7	Holland	2	4.54
Total		44	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

#### **5.4 Flow of Indian tourist in Nepal**

Table no. 5.4 shows that large numbers of Indian tourist arrive in Nepal. Indian tourists enter in Nepal from different borders of Nepal. Among them, the nearest boader from Delhi is Gadda chauki of Kanchanpur. Many Indians believe in Hinduism. they come to Nepal as religious tourists to visit pashupatinath, Muktinath, Lumbini and other sacred place of Nepal. Kanchanpur itself is popular for religious purpose because many religious sites area located in this region like Siddhanath Temple, Shivadham Temple, Radha Krishna Temple, Baijyanath Temple, Brahmadev, and Niglasaini Bhagawati Temple are most popular for the national and international religious tourists in the Kanchanpur. Kanchanpur is also popular for the national scenery and its beauty ornate by the various flora and fauna.

**Table No. 5.4: Flow of Indian tourist in Nepal**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Indian tourists</b>
1	1999/2000	128,809
2	2000/2001	136,647
3	2001/2002	141,061
4	2002/2003	100,307
5	2003/04	36,401
6	2004/05	59,127
7	2005/06	76,707
8	2006/07	96,310
9	2007/08	78,640
10	2008/09	103,085
11	2009/010	93,722
12	2010/011	96,010
13	2011/012	91,177
14	2012/013	93,781
15	20013/014	11,6321

Nepal Tourist Statistics 2013 (MOTCA)

### **5.5 Distribution by Purpose of Visit**

Tourist visiting Kanchanpur for different purposes for this question was asked to the visitors to identify the purpose of visit. The major purposes of visiting Kanchanpur by the tourists are to watch glimpse of Shulakphant Wildlife Reserve and wild animal, visit religious sites, recreation, scenic beauty and other purposes.

The table no. 5.5 shows that the highest number (15) of visitors visited wildlife reserve and a wild animal which is becomes 34.09 percent. The second highest number (12) of visitors come to visit the religious sites of Kanchanpur which is 27.27 percent followed by other purposes, 13.63 percent of tourists visited for the purpose of recreation, 9.09 percent for scenic beauty and 6.81 percent on elephant riding, 4.45 percent for both watching birds and other purpose.

**Table No. 5.5: Distribution by Purpose of Visit**

S.N.	Purpose of visit	Number	Percent
1	Visit wildlife reserve	15	34.09
2	Scenice beauty	4	9.09
3	Recreation	6	13.63
4	Elephant riding	3	6.81
5	Watching birds	2	4.54
6	Pilgrimage	12	27.27
7	Other	2	4.54
Total		44	

Source: Field Survey, 2013

### **5.6 Tourist Arrival by Age Group and Sex**

Different age of tourists used to visit Kanchanpur. Among them some are young where as some of them are old. In this section the tourists are classified in different age groups. There are below 20 years, 21 to 40 years, above 40 years. 44 respondents were interviewed in this study where 30 male and 14 female. Male Tourists are of different ages, 26.66 percent were below of 20 years of ago while 50 percent were within the age of 21 to 40 years. Similarly, 23.40 percent of tourists were over 40 years. Similarly in female 21.42 percent of visitors falls in below of 20 years, where as 57.14 percent falls in 21 to 40 years and 21.42 visitors falls in above 40 years.

**Table No. 5.6: Age and sex different of tourist**

S.N.	Age group	Male %	Female %
1	Below 20	26.66	21.42
2	21-40	50	57.14
	40 above	23.40	21.42
Total		100	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

## 5.7 Length of Stay of Tourist in Kanchanpur

The length of stay is a crucial factor in tourism development. In order to develop tourism industry it is necessary not only to increase the number of tourists but also it is needed to increase their length of stay. The length of stay varies from tourists to tourists. It depends upon time, money, desire and accommodation.

**Table No. 5.7: The Length of Stay of tourist**

S.N.	Duration	No. of Respondents	Percent
1	One night	23	52.27
2	Two night	14	32.81
3	Three night	6	13.63
4	Four night	1	2.32
Total		44	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Above table shows that 52.27 percent of tourists stayed one night while 32.81 percent stayed two nights. Similarly, 13.63 percent stayed three nights and remaining 2.32 percent stayed for four nights and above.

## 5.8 Expenditure Pattern of Tourists

Table no. 5.8 shows 36.36 percent visiting Kanchanpur spend less than US \$ 15 on lodging. Similarly 38.63 percent spend less than US \$ 15 on fooding.

The price charged for lodging and fooding in Kanchanpur seem to be moderate as viewed by the majority of tourist. It shows that majority of tourists are low spending group as they spend less and seek high quality of service. Some of the tourists felt that the prices are cheap incanting the scope for the high end tourists' activities.

On an average, tourists spend US \$ 15 on purchase of local items and other activities. It indicates that there are not many activities for the tourists and hence not much scope to spend

money in Kanchanpur with proper tourism planning it may be possible to create more activities for more spending by tourism.

**Table No. 5.8: Expenditure Patterns of Visitors**

<b>Amount (US \$)</b>	<b>No. of visitors (lodging)</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No. of visitors (fooding)</b>	<b>%</b>
Below 15	16	36.36	17	38.63
16-26	13	30.11	14	32.11
26-35	8	18.18	9	40.45
36-45	5	11.36	3	7.10
45 Above	2	4.5	1	2.27
Total	44	100	44	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

### **5.9 Source of the Information and publicity**

For the increasing number of tourist the publicity and advertisement is very important. It is found that 29.45 percent of the information is disseminated through tour operator followed by travel book which is 25.00 percent and the lowest percentage i.e. 7.12 percent is through media. This is because there is lack of advertisement through media. This scenario indicates that less attention is given to media.

**Table No. 5.9: Source of the information**

<b>S.N.</b>	<b>Source of information</b>	<b>No. of Resspondent</b>	<b>Percent</b>
1	Travell book	11	25
2	Tour operator	13	29.54
3	Media	3	7.12
4	Friends of relatives	5	11.36
5	Trade show and fairs	5	11.36
6	Others	7	16.10
Total		44	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013



## 5.10 Employment Pattern in Hotels Employee

Given table shows that there is only limited numbers of the female employed in the hotels than the male. Out of the total employed 76.34 percent males who are engaged in the hotels as permanent and temporary employee, where as only 23.65 percent females are employed in hotels. the hoteliers of the Mahendranagar alone occupy 100 percent of the respondents hotels.

**Table No. 5.10: Employment pattern of hotel in Kanchanpur**

S.N.	No. of respondents hotel	Female employer	Male employer	Total
1	hotel opera	5	11	16
2	Hotel Gangotri Plaza	3	10	13
3	Hotel sweet dream	2	8	10
4	Hotel New ananda	2	6	8
5	Hotel Anand	4	10	14
6	Hotel Annapurna	2	9	11
7	Hotel sangam	1	8	9
	Hotel Tera	3	9	12
Total		22	71	93

Source: Field Survey, 2013

## 5.11 Hoteliers Attitude own Hotel Number Destination

The table no. 5.11 shows that majority of the hotel enterprenures of the study area are not satisfied with the capacity and facility of their hotels existed in Kanchanpur and Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve area. They want to increase both the capacity and facility of hotels. 75 percent hotel enterprenures of the study area responded that the capacity and facility of their hotels in insufficient because it was not developed intending to serve the tourists. Also, they opined that until accommodation facility is not developed, tourism could not be healthy promoted in the area.

**Table No. 5.11: Hoteliers attitude on available accommodation facility**

S.N.	Hotel capacity	No. of respondents	Percent
1	Sufficient	2	25
2	Insufficient	6	75
3	More sufficient	0	0
Total		8	100

Source: Field Survey, 2013

### **5.12 Income Variation of Hotels**

In general, income variation among hotels in Kanchanpur is common. The income variation of hotels has been grouped in three categories: below Rs. 5 lakh between Rs. 5 lakh to 10 lakh and above Rs. 10 lakh per annum. The incomes generated by hotels in Kanchanpur are shown in given table.

**Table No. 5.12: Income variation of hotels**

S.N.	Annual incomes (Rs.)	No. of respondents Hotel
1	Below Rs. 5,00,000	1
2	Rs. 50,00,000 - 10,00,000	5
3	10,00,000 Above	2
Total		8

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Above table no. 5.12 shows that majority of hotels in Kanchanpur have between Rs. 5 lakh to 10 lakh annual income.

### **5.13 Hoteliers Opinion for the Development of Tourism in Kanchanpur**

Hoteliers of the study area expressed their different views regarding the development of the tourism in Kanchanpur. Out of 11 hoteliers 26.27 percent suggested in favor of the government supportive policies to endorse tourism in the study area, similarly 18.18 percent emphasized over the increase of hotel facilities in all most all the seasons along with well

equipped facilities. 18.18 percent hoteliers emphasized over the road facilities to promote religious and cultural tourism. Similarly other 18.18 percent emphasized over equal employment opportunities to local people. The next 9.09 percent hoteliers emphasized over advertisement through newspapers, radio and television about the tourism sites in Kanchanpur district and other 9.09 percent hoteliers suggested local people should be perform an active role in promoting tourism in their own places.

**Table No. 5.13: Hoteliers opinion for the development of tourism in Kanchanpur**

S.N.	Hoteliers Opinion	Respondents Hoteliess	Percent
1	Local people should be active	1	9.09
2	Government supportive policy	3	26.27
3	Employment opportunigy policy	2	18.18
4	Hotel facility	2	18.18
5	Road ficility	2	18.18
6	Advertisement	1	9.09
Total		11	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2013

#### 5.14 Role of Organization in the Development of Tourism

**Table No. 5.14: Role of Organization**

S.N.	View of People	Respondents	Percent
1	Local institution	7	15.60
2	Government	21	46.90
3	INGOs and NGOs	5	11.11
4	All of above	12	26.28
Total		45	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2013

Given table no. 5.14 shows the role of organizations in order to promote the tourism in Kanchanpur. 46.90 percentage people said that there should be vital role to play government agencies and organization for promoting tourism in study area. 15.60 percentage

respondents emphasized on the role of local institution and 11.11 percent people accentuated non-government agencies and rest of the 26.38 percentage informants focused on the importance role of government, non, government agencies and local institution to promote the tourism in the study area.

### 5.15 Public Opinion on the Development of Tourism

Researcher had taken 45 informants during the field survey. Due to the lack of time, climatic problems and limited sources the researcher could not take more than 45 informants. Table no. 5.15 shows that 37.77 percent people opined the adequate government policy was necessary for development of tourism in the area. According to them government has ignored to this region in every sector. Similarly, 22.5 percent people favored to advertise the religious importance and natural beauty of the area. 20 percent of total informant suggested the reconstruction of the religious and cultural sites in the region, which are the main pillar of the tourist attraction. Other 8.88 percent emphasized on accommodation and 11.11 percent emphasized on road facilities for the promotion of tourism in Kanchanpur district.

**Table No. 5.15: Public opinion on the development of Tourism**

S.N.	Public Opinion	Respondent Public	Percent
1	Adtqute government policy	17	37.77
2	Accommodation	4	8.88
3	Reonstruciton of religions of culture site	9	20
4	Advertisement	10	22.5
5	Road facility	5	11.11
Total		45	100.00

Source: Field Survey, 2013

### 5.16 Significance of Folk Culture to Promote Tourism

Researcher had asked to respondents is there significance of folk culture like Deuda dance, Bhuwa, Sakhia Nach etc to promote tourism in this district? The answer was; the folk culture like Deuda dance, Bhuwa, Sakhia Nach and other festivals can promote the tourism. 60 percent of the total informant viewed that these types of folk culture only support to increase the domestic tourists whereas 30 percent informants had viewed that these types of culture are helpful to promote the tourism from foreigner tourist perspective. But 10 percent of total informants had viewed that there is no place of such types of culture to promote the tourism.

## CHAPTER - VI

### PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF TOURISM IN KANCHANPUR DISTRICT

#### 6. Introduction

This chapter deals with the problems and prospects of tourism in Kanchanpur district which is another main objectives or purposes of this research. There is an enormous prospect of tourism. Tourism has tremendous growth potential as it stimulate the growth of the overall economy. It has bright future in this region because of the availability of immense tourism resources. Similarly it has ample opportunities for tourism development of this region due to unlimited potential diversities cultural and artistic heritage. Thus, tourism has an important position in the Nepalese economy because of its comparative advantages than other sectors. Despite such a great potentials and promising prospects, tourism of Kanchanpur as been facing various problems also.

#### 6.1 Prospects of Tourism Development in Kanchanpur

Kanchanpur is the storehouse of vast tourism products like diverse culture and unique bio-diversity, adventure and panoramic nature etc. We can promote rural tourism, religious tourism as well as community based tourism in this area. There are some linkages and accessible routes to the neighboring districts from Dadeldhura, so there is a great possibility to develop tourist packages with the tourist areas of these neighboring districts. Tourist can enjoy different places of different districts in one package. With wild and sparkling scenic beauty, rich cultural heritages and well known rural settlements, Kanchanpur district could be one of the major tourist destinations in Nepal. This district is a paradise for nature lovers, gorgeous place for adventure seekers and holy place for the religious people. This district could be popular for all kinds of visitors.

Kanchanpur district which is naturally and culturally endowed encompasses impressive cultural heritages, rich flora and fauna, white and the places with panoramic beauty. There are immense potentials for tourism activities like, hiking, trekking, bird watching, sightseeing, picnic, pond, healthy environment, pilgrimage, rural and community tourism etc. Major tourist destinations include:

The main challenges are to change the behavior of local people of Kanchanpur to implement development projects. Through this, knowledge, talent and resources can be optimally utilized for common benefits. The tourism project should internalize and implement modern development goals in the community. Local people should be recognized as the main decision makers to tackle problems collectively for their mutual benefit. The tourism development program in Kanchanpur should pay more attention to income generating activities, both short and long term, while at the same time ensuring people's right and privileges over the resources. Equally important is the task of installing right kind of value system and change attitudes to develop entrepreneurship and management skills. Some of the importance tourism prospects in Kanchanpur are summarized below:

### **6.1.1 Natural Beauty**

Natural Beauty is one of the important aspects for the attraction of tourists in Kanchanpur district. Kanchanpur itself ornate by the natural resources therefore, there is high possibility to be a potential destination for the tourists. For example, the beautiful lake side seen from Suda VDC, Mahakali River and green forest with grassy land makes the Kanchanpur itself a beautiful place forever. Kanchanpur districts is endowed with natural habitat in Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve, Chure hill are main spots for sightseeing. Jhilmila lake, dense forest near Betkote lake, Rautela, Para lake in Bramdev, Rani lake, Rana Tharu Sanskritik program Sankarpur offers fully natural environment and human settlement for natural lovers for eco trekking different type of lake and wet land provide a big spectrum of recreation opportunities in the district. Tourism statistics shows that the development of natural tourism remained on the background till the decades of 1970s and even 80s, despite the positive publicity generated by ascent of Mt. Everest in 1953 (Zurick 1992 cited by Bhatt, 2006). Kanchanpur is naturally virgin, so it is possible to attract the foreign as well as domestic nature lovers.

### **6.1.2 Religious and Cultural Heritage**

Cultural basically tradition culture is a great motivation factor of attraction to tourists. It is another major prospect of tourism in Kanchanpur. There is dominance of the Hindu religion where only few of the people adopted the Christianity. People adopted diverse tangible and intangible culture, which seems to be different in accordance caste and ethnicity. People of this region followed different kinds of festivals that preserve their identity through the

generation. mainly the people of this region have been followed different festivals like Gaura Parva with Deuda dance and Tharu nach in Magh in the special seasons. In the time of Gaura Parva, Dauda nach is very interesting for listener, likewise Tharu nach in Maghi, Holi are motivation factor of attract on tourist. Deuda dances, Bhuwa, Doteli language, Baidik marriage system are the main features of culture of this region.

Along with the celebration of the different festivals they have been playing different musical instruments like Damaha (beating drum), Narsinha (flute) and Temke in order to entrain the observer in the particular day usually to perform the Hudke dance, Sarani dance and Chulo dance. Local shaman also healing on the basis of the ture of the musical instruments and bless the people who have been suffering by the supernatural forces. People follows these kinds of practice on the basis of the Hindu principle, which is uniquely, survive even in 21st century. The cultural heritage of this region itself a potential region for the researcher where the society have been constructing through the kinship network and Hindu Varna system. The cultural pluralism itself creates the diverse roles and responsibilities to the people, which are the unique features of cultural diversity in the study region. This is a potential area for tourism because different temples devoted to Hindu God and Goddess are located in this region, the attract both national and international tourists for pilgrimage as well as entertainment during festival and special occasion. This region is popular for folk culture like Dueda, Sarai, Chaliea dance and Thado Khel and is the major attraction for the tourists. Along with being attraction for tourists, these folk cultures are the threads that integrate the people of this locality.

Kanchanpur district has vast diversity of people, rich culture and art as well as distinctive architecture renders it ideal as the most amazing and interesting destination for sightseeing. Tharu culture is another unique culture. Thus Kanchanpur district is rich in terms of cultural setting that will support for cultural tour.

The tharus have a rich culture followed by a number of customs and manners. The Tharu group of people would wear more than 30 types of different ornaments worn by a Tharu lady from head to leg shows the magnificent picturesque. The Tharu lady who stands on the traditional fashion will create the compassion and attraction. The Tharu male also wear an ornament named Tarana in his ear. The indigenous groups of people have a very rich culture. The Tharus have their own distinct culture with beautiful song and dance. The famous dances of the Tharu community can be identifies as:

Lauro Nach (stick dance)

Damphu Nach (peacock feather bowing round dance)

Bhajeli Nach (big stick moving dance)

Bali Bhitrauni Nach (harvesting dance\_

Except Tharu, there are other groups. These groups cultures and more attractive which give extra enjoyment to visitors. So, this region has big cultural.

Similarly various temples like Siddhanath Temple, Shivadham Temple, Radha Krishna Temple, Baijyanath Temple, Brahmadev and Niglasaini Bhagawati Temple and Shiva Mandir are situated in Kanchanpur district. They have both religious and cultural importance. Every year, many religious people visit these temples from India and Nepal. Siddhanath Temple in Kanchanpur is an important and sacred temple for religious Yatra. Every year, many religious people go to Purnagiri which lies in our neighboring country India. It is famous believe of the people that, by this religious yatra to Purnagiri they can fulfill their unfulfilled wishes and desires. After visiting Purnagiri it is compulsory for them to visit Siddhanath Temple, otherwise their wishes remain unfulfilled. It is said that there is interconnection between these two holy temples. So, to make complete religious yatra it is essential for the prayers to visit both temples. Rautela temple is another spot for religious Yatra. Thus this district has great prospect of religious tourism development.

Kanchanpur is a rich district for cultural attraction. Kanchanpur mohotsav is an attempt in this direction. This cultural festival showcases the rich cultural heritage and social ethos of the people of Kanchanpur. Mohotsav is even more special when food is served in traditional style one gets a more intimate feel of the food when served in the traditional ambience.

### **6.1.3 bird Watching and Honey Hunting**

Out of 9702 species of bird are found in the world, Nepal boasts to have species (8.7 percent of world's species). Kanchanpur district harbors a spectrum of bird habitats including sal forest in the Suklafata and Chure Parvat, wetland of Mahakali flood plain, The sal, sisam forest of Bedhkot and jhilmila lake, mixed forest around Rani lake, mixed forest of Bramdev around Para lake are the heard land for large number of sours, crane, swamp, francolin, grass owl warblers, flycatcher and the endangered Bengal Florio etc. Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve is habital 350 species of bird so bird watching is another prospective.

There is no special attraction of honey hunting in the district. However, the spices dorsata



(big and aggressive variety of Apies) is found in the old and big trees in the country side. Tharu and major people possess special art of harvesting honey from the colony of such aggressive insect.. There is tradition of harvesting honey in communal basis and sharing among the entire cluster household in tharu communities.

#### **6.1.4 Fishing and Boating in Mahakali River**

Mahakali River is considered as a most favorable fishing and boating destination in this region. Fishing and boating service in Mahakali River will increase number of tourist and it also give them chance to spent more days in Kanchanpur, If they spent more nights, they will also anxious to visit other religious and natural place. This will helps to increase employment for local people.

#### **6.1.5 Village Tours**

**Village tours allow visitors** to experience a stay a typical Nepal village. This gives visitors an opportunity to observe the rich Nepalese cultural tradition from the closest quarter and intermingle with the locals. Besides, any expenses made at that level directly contribute to the welfare of the local community, hence giving the visitor a sense of satisfaction. It is possible for village tour in Kanchanpur district in different village such as Chandani, Shankarpur, Shreepur, Raikawar Bichawa and other places of the district.

#### **6.1.6 Jungle Safari**

Suklaphanta Wildlife Reserve offer exciting safari holidays, which is situated in the hart of the Kanchanpur district. Jungle activities here include venturing into deep jungle on elephant back or four wheel drive to view wild animals in their natural habitat, canoe rides on the jungle Rivers, nature walks, bird watching and village tour excursions.

### **6.2 Problems of Tourism Development in Kanchanpur**

A number of constraints have affected the tourism development process in the lack of physical and institutional infrastructure, while others result from shortage of skilled technical and professional human resources. Despite great potentials and promising prospects in Kanchanpur, tourism in v has been facing various problems. The main constraints of tourism sectors in this region are as follows:

### **6.2.1 Inadequate of Tourism Infrastructure**

There is no doubt that Kanchanpur has a lot of tourism destination that can attract tourist from all over the world easily. But because of inaccessibility communication, accommodation and other factors tourist can not reach those places. If tourism infrastructure like road communication, accommodation and other facilities those tourist needs to consume and feel can be managed there is a good scope of tourism but even today such tourism infrastructure are not made.

This is one of the problems of the Kanchanpur. Transport is one of the main support infrastructures needed for tourism. It is primary service needed for the tourists in order to reach their destination. Not only road transport but also air transport is limited in this region. Except these other types of transport is also limited.

Besides these, accommodation is another problem of this region for tourism which is very important tourism infrastructure. There is little number of standard hotels which is located in the Mahendranagar only. There is no provision of standard hotels in different parts of this district. So for the tourism development in Kanchanpur government should encourage private sector to establish star and non star hotel in different places. In short the infrastructure facilities like roads, hotels, trekking agencies, supply of trekking gear and packed food, communication power is not yet developed in tourist site and around Kanchanpur district for support tourism development.

### **6.2.2 Shortage of Skilled Human Resources**

Trained guides are most important to make the tourist's visit various culture and historical places. With the co-operation of guide any tourists can study and know the correct image of Nepal as well as Kanchanpur. If the guides are untrained and imperfect they mislead foreigners. The maximization of tourist inflow depends on the way they influence the tourists through proper guiding and explanation about our unique socio-cultural antiquities. But the shortage of trained and skilled manpower has been always a handicap in the path of tourism development especially in this part of country. At peak tourist seasons there is always a lack of proper trained guide and trained manpower in a state, when create a big burden in the development of tourism. Most of the hotel boys of Kanchanpur and local bus conductors are untrained and uneducated as well. Because of their language difficulty, communication between hotel boy and visitors become more difficult.

So, for development of tourism in Kanchanpur government and non-government organizations should provide training to the local people. Then only Kanchanpur tourism can be developed.

### **6.2.3 Inadequate of Recreational Facilities**

Most of the tourist come Nepal come for recreational purpose. In 2008 A.D. 29.6 percent of tourist visited to Nepal for recreational purpose but the facility for recreation is very low in Kanchanpur. Due to absence of their desirable recreational facility their length of stay are also decreasing. Recreational centers like cultural centers, clubs, rafting, sightseeing, swimming pool and sport ground are not enough for tourist. None of these facilities are available in Kanchanpur except Tharus cultural central in Shankarpur and other traditional dances. Recreational facility and tourism are directly related to each other so these centers should be made all over the Kanchanpur where possible.

### **6.2.4 Lack of people Awareness**

One of the major and dangerous problems of Nepalese tourism is the lack of people awareness. Mainly, Far Western Region as well as Kanchanpur district is suffering from it in comparison to other development regions. People do not have any kind of knowledge about tourism. Even people in this region have not still heard the world 'tourism. Majority of the people engaged only their own occupation with agriculture which is also limited to the subsistence level.

Kanchanpur has high tourism potenalities, but that is not explored yet. Explored tourist destination is not developed still, Since people are illiterate, they are unaware about eh benefits which the tourism could provide them. Therefore, for the development of tourism industry government and non-government organization should provide formal education as well as tourism education also. Then only Nepal can develop tourism in Kanchanpur as a popular tourist destination like Pokhara and Chitwan.

Similarly most people in Kanchanpur do not know about the importance of tourism. Tourists come here to visit our life style, culture and hospitality. If we misbehave to them it will go bad message to the remaining world. Hawkers, taxi drivers, hotel agents are making force tourists to buy goods and services from them. They should know that they are coming to their

country to raise the economic standard up. Either these persons should be trained or this type of misbehavior must be stop by the concerned level.

### **6.2.5 Lack of Advertisement and Marketing**

For the development of tourism advertisement and publicity play important role. Advertisement and publicity are only means to attract tourist from its organizing country. To attract tourist, culture and architecture, natural beauties, religious environment etc. through pamphlet, booklets, short documentaries, films, post cards international magazines and other possible means.

It is also major tourism problem in Kanchanpur district. Due to this problem many foreign tourists' even domestic tourists did not know about the paradise of the part of the country. That is why; Kanchanpur is still unable in attracting domestic as well as foreign tourists. This region is very rich in tourism but lack of publicity and promotion most of the tourist destination has not yet explored.

Except few booklets book, travelling agency no single agency is associated in publish information about Kanchanpur. Tourist who entered from boarded Gaddachoki, only know about Pokhara, Royal Chitwan National Park, Lumbini, they do not have information about Shuklaphanta, suspension bridge, and other beautiful, religious place of Kanchanpur. It may be due to the lack of attendance in national and international fair, seminar and conferences along with direct contract with private and public tourism related institution. So we have seen that there are a lot of things to accomplish in Kanchanpur. this entire problem shall be addressed properly and timely by the local community with the help of private and public institutions both from domestic and international fronts.

### **6.2.6 Negligence of the Government**

The lack of government priority and commitment for the development of Kanchanpur district is also a deterrent to tourism development. Instead of exploiting natural and bio-diversity for tourism in this region, the government seems to be overlooked about its potentialities. This main focus has been concentrated some where else where, the tourism has already flourished. And the proper plan has not yet been framed out for the long term tourism development. If tourism, as is widely accepted, is to be flourished, it has to be diversified to the different part of the country in such a way the fruit of it goes to all equally. But, in Nepalese perspective it

is not so, some of tourist destination has already reached to the boom while others still lag far behind. In case of Kanchanpur this is also a true fact. For tourism development, inter-sectoral development approaches are needed especially in the following areas:

Physical infrastructure: Transport, communication, electricity, hotels, resting places, camping sites etc.

Community development.

Environment protection.

Electricity and energy development.

Developing agriculture/horticulture and livestock resources.

Human resources.

Financial resources mobilization, including local saving schemes.

Technological support system.

Enhanced social services.

Restructuring/renovation of important temples of tourist attraction.

Identification and implementation of income generating activities and

Institutional arrangement for implementation.

### **6.2.7 Lack of Travel and Trekking Agencies**

Tourism can be developed through travel agencies if they perform their task smoothly. Travel agencies play significant role in generating tourists from tourist originating countries, making reservation for hotel accommodation, organizing travel and tour for a tourist etc. But due to lack of well organized travel agencies, it could not provide substantial contribution in the development of tourism sector. In Kanchanpur there exist few number of travel agencies and all of them are located in the Mahendranagar. Due to their remoteness in location, the tourists can not have direct contact and they are scattered in such a way, to get an agency, tourists have to incur extra time and money which for tourists, is a cumbersome job. Besides these problems one state agency do not have their branches in foreign countries, which is also affecting development of tourism in our country.

### **6.2.8 Late Start of Development in the Region and market Limitation**

Although the modernization process started in Nepal around the 1950's the effective inclusion of this region in this modernization process with adequate resources has been very late. And

to attract sizable number of foreigner and Indian tourists requires substantial improvement, investment in infrastructure facilities and services. Considering the limited tourist arrival in the v district, it may not be feasible for private entrepreneurs to invest in infrastructure development.

### **7.2.9 Poverty and Its Causes**

There is wide spread poverty in Kanchanpur district. The major factors behind this situation are:

Under employment/unemployment of the male population.

Lack of adequate extension service in agriculture.

Lack of awareness among local people.

Poor infrastructure development.

Prevalence of superstition and untouchability.

Limited off-farm income generating activities.

Few educated people, out-migration of educated people.

Lack of basic social services such as health, maternity and child care.

Lack of realistic program for enhancing the capacities of local people in planning, managing and utilizing available resources.

### **6.2.10 Lack of Information and Service System**

Even today most of the people in the country do not know about tourist sites of Kanchanpur district. What efforts were made from outside and inside the country to make our introduction to the country? Our introduction starts from Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve and residence of mix cultural society. These are not enough for our introduction. We have to launch such programme in national or international sector so we can make know about Kanchanpur. Today is the time of information technology. Websites are to be made and information about Kanchanpur is most important to provide in every corner of the world.

### **6.2.11 Destruction of Major Attraction**

Tourism promotion can be possible only after the preservation of natural beauty, artistic temple; old and ancient buildings, historic place and living human culture of the region are

some religious and cultural attraction of the study area. So this thing should be preserved by government and non government sector.

### **6.2.12 Political Instability**

Before two decades Nepal was known all over the world as the peace of land where Gautam Buddha was borned. but when in 2052 B.S. Maoist arises Nepal's above image has almost gone. After that Nepal is known as the country of violence and instable. Because of long political instability all sector including tourism is also effecting. Political stability is very much important for policy making and its implementation but Nepal is gradually sinking from all sectors. The tourism industry is totally different from the other traditional production industry as its operation can not get guests immediately on its opening after strikes. So announcement by political forces and government need to restrict bands and strikes in tourism related industrial units along with the supply related essential services.

## CHAPTER - VII

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

#### 7.1 Summary

Nepal where is no abundant resources, the tourism sector is expected to play an important role without any negative impacts. Nepal as a whole can receive more benefits from tourism than it is at present. In the scenario of low productivity in agricultural sector, tourism can be a high productive sector to compensate the unemployment and disguised unemployment prevailing in the country as well as v district. It has comparative advantages than other industries such as, it has low opportunity cost, it takes low gestation period to give returns it can involve the lower strata of the people of all ecological zones, involves women and ethnic groups and bears direct relation to all dimensions of life like culture, environment, nature, behavior of people. tourism also has a very significant contribution to GDP, foreign exchange earnings, government revenue, employment such as; it adjusts with decentralization and good governance, open base for greater role of women as partners for development and space for gender equity. In this basis tourism can be a leading sector and a socio-economic force in the economy of Nepal.

The researcher aims is to identify and explore problems and prospects of tourism in Kanchanpur. The study attempts to access the physical and religious-cultural tourist resources of Kanchanpur district. The data of the research are based on both primary and secondary sources. Mahendranagar is the district headquarters of Kanchanpur district at a distance of 709 kilometers from Kathmandu. Similarly, Jhalari, Belauri, Chaunni, Bharmadev, Gaddachauki are the main trade center. It is situated between 28<sup>0</sup>32"-29<sup>0</sup>8"north latitude and 80<sup>0</sup>3"-80<sup>0</sup>33" east longitude. The total area of Kanchanpur district is about 1610 sq km. total population of Kanchanpur district is 3,77,899. The district was returned to Nepal from East India Company in 1860 AD. the growth of town owned much to extension of railway up to Banbasa across the border originally for timber transport.

Most part of the district lies in Tarai belt varying the attitude of 160 m to 1528 m. unique diversified cultural system is existed in this part of the country. Agronomy is the base of economy, where Mahakali, Chaudhar, Mohana, Dodha, Jogbudha Rivers provide water for



cultivation of the land. Mahendranagar is the prime commercial hub. Mahendra Highway would become backbone for the development of Kanchanpur.

Kanchanpur is a popular destination of tourism. Both natural and cultural heritage resource preferred by the tourists. The natural scenery, the rich flora and fauna, peaceful environment, the ethnic simplicity, the rich diverse culture are the tourism industry of Kanchanpur. Almost all the countries of the world have given priority to the development of tourism by allocating more money in this sector. Kanchanpur also opened its door to tourism. From the earlier discussion it is evident that Kanchanpur has high tourism potential. The temples, lakes, picturesque landscape, wide diversity of flora and fauna, pleasant climate on the natural heritage, diverse customs and traditions. Hence, Kanchanpur provides a wide spectrum of tourist interest ranging from sightseeing, adventure, researches, cultural trips and pilgrimage and reveal others. Realizing the fact, district development committee has started to work by planning.

The basic attractions of tourists in Kanchanpur are wildlife safari, scenic attraction, pleasant climate, vegetation, flora, fauna and socio-cultural heritage including Suklaphata Wildlife Reserve and suspension bridge are famous destination among all tourist area in Kanchanpur district.

Kanchanpur district is culturally divided into various caste/ethnic groups each having specific characteristic in terms of traditional ceremonies and belief. Brahmins, Chhetri and Thakuri have dominance over the other so called dalits. The inhabitants of the region have been speaking Indo-Aryan language (Doteli language) and their cultural features have characteristics like that of the people of Kumaon and Garwal in India. The people of this region perform different folk dances like Deuda, Sarai and Hudkeli. It has unique cultural features, which can attract many domestic and international tourists in special occasions. Tharu is main ethnic group of the study area. They use Tharu language and Maghi is most important festival for them.

Siddhanath, Baijnath, Shiva Dham, Saket Dham (Bishnu Mandir), Ghatal Baba, Jhilmilla Tal, Bedkot Tal, Niglasaini and Babathan (Dodhara) are famous religious place of Kanchanpur. Worshiper from different parts of Nepal and India visit the Siddhanath Temple (Siddha Baba) during special occasion (Purnagiri Mela), as it is believed that a pilgrimage to Purnagiri-Siddha Baba ensures fulfillment of all that the pilgrim desires. The annual festival cycle, according to the Nepali year, is Janai Purnia, Teej, Gaura, Dashin, tihar, Bishu and Maghi

(Maghe Sankranti) and Phagu (Holi) are the most important festivals in this part of the country.

During fiscal year 1998/1999 only 88 tourists were recorded as visitors to the Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve area, whereas, in fiscal year 1999/2000 they were 521 on record but in conflict periods its trend is negative that's why in fiscal year 2004/2005 only 18 tourists were arrived there.

During field survey, the researcher could find 44 tourists for this year.

Tourists visit Kanchanpur basically for the wildlife reserve and wild animals, pilgrimage, recreation, scenic beauty, elephant riding and watching birds, some tourists also come to Kanchanpur for cultural exchange programme as well as research and study programme. Majority of tourists visited Kanchanpur with purpose of visit wildlife reserve (34.09%), followed by pilgrimage (27.27%) and others.

The people of different countries visit Kanchanpur. The highest number of tourists (36.36%) visited Kanchanpur from India following by USA (29.54%) and from other countries.

Length of stay is a crucial factor in tourism development in any tourist destination. In Kanchanpur, most tourists (52.27%) of total tourists were found staying for one night and 32.81, 13.63, 2.32 were found staying for two nights, three nights and four nights and above respectively.

The expenditure pattern of tourists varies one to another and depends upon their time, money and interest and other related factors. Especially it is directly related to the length of stay of tourists. 36.36 percent visiting Kanchanpur spend less than US\$ 15 on lodging and fooding in Kanchanpur seem to be moderate as viewed by the majority of tourists. It shows that majority of tourists are low spending group as they spend less and seek high quality of service. Some of the tourists felt that the prices are cheap indicating the scope for the high end tourists activities.

Development of tourism infrastructure in Kanchanpur is a recent phenomenon. Now there are better infrastructure facilities available but not enough, where 48 non star hotels/loades, 1 jungal resorts are established but it is not sufficient numbers. Majority of the hotel businessmen of the Kanchanpur are not satisfied with the capacity and facility of their hotels existed in Kanchanpur and Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve area. They want to increase both the capacity and facility of hotels. 75 percent hotel businessmen of the study area responded

that the capacity and facility of their hotels is insufficient because it was not developed intending to serve the tourists. Also, they opined that until accommodation facility is not developed, tourism could not be healthy promoted in the area.

For the development of tourism in Kanchanpur district 26.27 percent respondent hotelbusinessmen emphasized on government supportive policy following by 18 percent emphasized on each of these facilities, road facility, hotel facility, and employment opportunity for local people. But 9 percent hoteliers of the study area emphasized on both advertisement and active role of local people in tourism development.

In terms of tourism development in Kanchanpur district 37.77 percent local people of total respondent opined the adequate government policy was necessary for development of tourism in the area. According to them government has ignored to this region in every sector. Similarly, 22.5 percent people favored on advertisement of the tourist spots. 20 percent of total informant suggested the reconstruction of the religious sites and cultural center in the region, which are the main pillar of the internal and Indian tourist attraction. Other 11.11 percent emphasized on road facility and 8.88 percent emphasized on accommodation for the promotion of tourism in Kanchanpur district.

## **7.2 Conclusion**

Actually tourism is one of the most significant contributors of Nepalese economy. In spite of high potentiality of tourism development in all development regions and their ecological region, tourism in Nepal is centralized in the eastern and central part of the country. In Mount Everest, Kathmandu, Pokhara, Annapurna and in other area of the country, centralized and highly seasonal nature of tourism serious environmental damage in some of the valuable and sensitive touristic resources and cultural and natural landscapes of Nepal has been caused. Therefore, both the natural and cultural diversity of these areas are at risk and their potentialities are at risk.

The study of tourism in Kanchanpur revealed the absence of Government policy and long term planning. There was no long term planning exercise for tourism development in Kanchanpur. Moreover, the facility development in Kanchanpur takes place on an adhoc basis. Therefore, policy and long-term tourism planning at the micro level should be given due emphasis. Notwithstanding high priority given to tourism planning, the tourism development expenditure of the government is not even one percent of total development expenditure. This

kind of poor financial priority given to tourism sector shows government's lack of commitment towards tourism promotion in the country.

The people of this part of region are earning only few of the amount through the tourism particularly earn by selling natural beauty, diverse ethnic culture and performing their folk practices prevailing in that particular region. This research is depends on the exploratory and descriptive research design. The information of the research drawn from questionnaire survey and literature review to make it more reliable and authentic.

Majority of the people are illiterate in the study area. Therefore there need to be initiated educational based programs by the government and non governmental agencies. There is connectedness tourism and education because the more number of educated people helps the development activities like in tourism because it plays significant role in its promotion and publicity within the short span of time. About 63 percent of the sampled population involves in the agriculture services and remaining other population adopts non agricultural activities like business, service and students. Non of sampled respondents found adopted tourism as their main occupation. These are high potentiality to run agro based industries and the business of non timber forest product however they have lack of knowledge of its sustainable use and exploitation. If the government drawn their attention for the establishment such types of industries and tourism hand in hand the income level of people will be increase immediately.

By the conventional tourism the majority of benefits are generally retained in the central and city areas with only a minor share reaching the villages and area like Kanchanpur. Emerging local people in new tourism activities starts with tourism awareness and then requires capacity building and skill training. Therefore capacity building and skills training is a core activity to promote tourism. The local culture emerges as being a key product in presenting and interpreting tourism. The beneficiaries can be women and depreved people with awareness and skills training. The exchange and study programmes to successful tourism destinations proved useful in proving confidence and motivation to start new tourism initiatives in the areas like Kanchanpur. The local people need skills training, micro finance and other help with their organization. Therefore enough tourism professional and responsible private sectors input at the early planning stages must be insured so that the realities of market demand and tourism flows can be matched to the aspirations of the local communities to create successful tourism business.

The active involvement of stakeholders at the community, district and central level is essential for maintaining sensible backward and forward tourism linkages and for promotional arrangements and flexible procedural formalities. For establishing the ongoing and sustainable linkages between the central government and local bodies the institutional design has to be legally assured within government regulations.

A developing new tourism product in areas with no established flows is extremely difficult and presents interesting marketing and promotional challenges. This is especially relevant in the context of Nepal's geographically constrained tourism patterns. Linking new tourism business with Kathmandu tour operators should be an essential part of any new product development process.

In order to access tourism products it is necessary to upgrade and maintain roads, trails, bridges and other essential infrastructure. These improvements not only help tourists, but also ease the livelihoods of local people. For tourism infrastructure development, the successfully concluded partnerships between the government, communities, local bodies and NGOs is generating in some districts are already showing a good will and area generating a feeling of ownership among the local users and other local population. These partnerships are ranging from upgrading or renovating access roads and trails, creating tourism facilities, repairing religious sites, building public utilities, social infrastructure and environmental conservation facilities as well as alternative energy system.

### **7.3 Recommendations**

This study covers the problems and prospects of tourism in Kanchanpur district. By analyzing data, this study recommends that following efforts should be carried out for the promotion of different types of tourism in the region:

- i. The bio-diversity of Kanchanpur district which is yet unexplored should be explored through adequate research. This will help to raise and promote tourist activities in the area. Government, District Development Committee and private sector of local level have to pay attention in time.
- ii. Development of tourism always depends on lodging and fooding the facilities for non residents. This study reveals that tourist oriented accommodation facilities in the Kanchanpur district are almost out of the scene. Hence, eco-friendly, socially and culturally supportive, healthy and convenient accommodation and resturant facilities and other peripheral infrastructural development may significantly boost tourism in this

district. While developing these facilities, necessary care should be given for the use of local resources, architectural design and gender balance employment of the local people.

- iii. The people who are dependent on the local resources of Shuklaphant Wildlife Reserve should be provided another job opportunity by government. This will gradually reduce the encroachment on the resources of wildlife reserve and in the conservation and protection of wild animals in the wildlife reserve as well as in bio-diversity in the reserve area. Similarly, well-managed planning of infrastructural (hotel and road) development and promotion policy is urgently needed if tourism is to be developed in this area in a sustainable way.

For the development of tourism, advertisement and publicity is very necessary. A well planned well coordinated and systematically integrated publicity campaign is required for effective promotion of tourism. Publicity of Kanchanpur in the outside world with various cultural, traditional religions, heritage, photos of panoramic scene new tourisms activities and required facilities must be organized time to time in the different parts of the world.

- iv. As Annapurna, Sagarmatha and Chitwan National Park area are facing increasing pressure of tourism and associated activities, the effort should be carried out to develop tourism in the area like Far Western part of Nepal including Kanchanpur district. This will also consequently help in decentralizing tourism.
- v. Tourism can not grow in absence of trained manpower like tourist guide, hotel administration, cleaners, cooks, shopkeepers and other staff that are necessary for tourist activities. Through imported trained manpower has high mobility, for preserving cultural and religious heritages for this area; local people should be trained for fulfilling the needs of manpower of the tourist activities. This will also ensure reliable and durable supply of manpower in this area. For these, leader of this area should be creative providing these kinds of training opportunities.
- vi. Different sites and structure of religio-cultural importance like Siddhanath Temple and other areas in Kanchanpur area ruinous condition due to absence of protection and renovation. Therefore concerned authorities should pay their attention on these issue immediately and renovate them.
- vii. The basic facilities of travel agency are to create effective demand in the market and in the same way to provide satisfactory services to the tourists. Therefore it is necessary to find out as to what makes an individual to become a traveler or tourist to destination. And recording should be done of those tourists who visited more than once. Most of the travel agency is confined only to the capital. So every tourism center must have travel agency and should able to disseminate proper and accurate information regarding tourist. And also

the rampant dissatisfaction among our clients from any particular area, who may have visited our region earlier. Endeavor has to be made to overcome complaints such as unfair dealing by taxi driver, beggars, unscrupulous dealers of curios, souvenirs etc.

It is equally important to include tourism along with its other component as subjects of training and study in our education programme. Education programming will help us in creating awareness among the people to value our tourist resources and understand the impact of tourist influx. Further it would also help to make the people realize their basic responsibilities of being in the host country. The subject course should be so designed as it could effectively provide sound knowledge about our main cultural historical and other types of resources.

- viii. The district and significant features of the lakes like Jhilmila and Bedkot are still under cover. It is one of the most beautiful places in Nepal, but who knows? There is a complex diversity in culture and traditions but these are yet to be highlighted. The dynamic and energetic complex. Mahakali is one of the most favorable rivers for fishing and rafting. There is a lack of tourist resorts, tours and traveling agencies and information centers and very few domestic flight services. Thus DDC Kanchanpur, Hotel Association, Chambers of Commerce should invest to solve these problems.
- ix. The tourism industry is totally different from the other traditional production industry as its operation can not get guests immediately on its opening after strikes. So announcement by political forces and government need to restrict bands and strikes in tourism related industrial units along with the supply related essential services.
- x. In Kanchanpur, there was no system of keeping a record of tourists, and as such, no data are available on tourists and their characters. There is no doubt that the generation of tourist data and maintenance of records is very important in the process of tourism development either for the purpose of formulating tourism plans or for developing strategy. Therefore it is recommended that tourists' record keeping system should be initiated at the local level including all important tourist destinations of Nepal.

To solve the problems of tourism in Kanchanpur district above suggestions are recommended. To fulfill these recommendation Shuklaphanta Wildlife Reserve Development Committee, District Development Committee Kanchanpur, Kanchanpur Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Kanchanpur tourism Promotion Committee, Ministry for Tourism, Nepal Tourism Board, government, NGOs, INGOs and private sector working in local area should pay their attention in time.

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# APPENDIX

## Questionnaire

### Questionnaire for Hotel Owners

1. Name of the respondents
2. Age ( ) 16-25, ( ) 26-30 ( ) 30-45, ( ) 46-55, ( ) 56
3. Sex ( ) male, ( ) female
4. How many rooms and beds are available in your hotel/lodge?
5. What are your rent for rooms and beds?
  - a. Double bed
  - b. Single bed
  - c. Others
6. Generally, how long do the tourists stay in this area?
  - a. Few hours
  - b. One night
  - c. Two nights
  - d. Three nights
  - e. More than three nights
7. How much do you earn per month from tourism business?
  - a. Rs. 5000 - Rs. 10000
  - b. Rs. 10000 - Rs. 20000
  - c. Rs. 20000 and above
8. Are poor people benefited from Tourism Business?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
9. If not what are the reasons behind?
  - a. Domination of elites
  - b. Low income
  - c. Lack of awareness
  - d. Lack of training
10. What things do you think, to attract for the tourists?
  - a. Lake
  - b. Forest
  - c. Wildlife

- d. Local culture
  - e. Others
11. What is liked by the tourists most in Kanchanpur?
    - a. Physical thing
    - b. Natural thing
    - c. Medical thing
    - d. Cultural thing
    - e. Do not know
  12. How many people get employed in your hotel?  
.....
  13. How many male and female employments in your hotel?
    - a. Male
    - b. Female
  14. How many trained and untrained employment in your hotel?
    - a. Trained
    - b. Untrained
  15. What are the problems for development of tourism business in Kanchanpur?  
.....
  16. What is the expecting from government to develop tourism business in Kanchanpur?  
.....
  17. Whose idea initiated people in Kanchanpur to start Rural Tourism?  
.....
  18. What are the tariff rates for foreign/international and domestic tourists?  
.....
  19. How was Kanchanpur before it started up their homes to accommodate visitors?  
.....
  20. Whether there is scope for expanding households' participation in Rural Tourism as tourists volumes increased?  
.....

21. Whether the concerned local insitutions are aware to face the challenges of increasing visitors flow, creating link with local development and diversifying in tourism product to increase visitor stay?  
.....
22. What percentage of the total food expanses for tourists go to import from outside?  
.....
23. What are the local energy sources under use?
  - a. Fire-wood ..... %
  - b. Dung ..... %
  - c. Bio-gas ..... %
  - d. Electricity ..... %
  - e. Solar ..... %
24. Imported fuel quantity per family?  
.....
25. What are the unique features of Kanchanpur as model tourists District?  
.....
26. What improvement Kanchanpur district need?  
.....
27. What are the main sources of income in Kanchanpur district?  
.....

### **Focus Group Discussion with the Local People**

1. How is the prospect of tourism in this region?
2. Can tourism help reduce poverty?
3. What are the major negative and positive impacts of tourism in your society?
4. Are poor benefited from tourism business?
5. What is the level of people's participation of tourism activities in his region?
6. What are the major challenges of tourism promotion?
7. Has tourism created to improve living standard of local people?

### Interview with the key informant

1. What are the major things that lure you to visit Kanchanpur?
2. What is your nationality?
3. Through which transportation means you arrive here?
4. How can this region be made a popular destination?
5. How can tourism help reduce poverty?
6. What are the major challenges of tourism promotion in this region?
7. How can domestic tourism be made sustainable?

### Questionnaire to Tourist

1. Name of the respondent
2. Age ( ) 16-25      ( ) 25-30      ( ) 30-45  
( ) 46-55      ( ) 56 and above
3. Sex: ( ) Male ( ) Female
4. What is your purpose to visit this place?
  - a. Natural beauty
  - b. Wild life and trekking routes
  - c. Cultural monuments
  - d. All of them
5. From which country do you come this place?
  - a. Nepal
  - b. UK
  - c. USA
  - d. German
  - e. Others .....
6. In which transportation do you prefer to visit the place?
  - a. Local bus
  - b. Car or own vehicle
  - c. Travel coach
  - d. Motorcycle

7. How many days do you stay this place?
  - a. Day excursion or below 24 hours
  - b. 24 hour
  - c. One night two days
  - d. 2-4 days
  
8. What is your feeling in price and standard of lodging, fooding and behavior of local people toward tourists?
  - a. Excellent
  - b. Good
  - c. Satisfactory
  - d. Poor
  
9. How much dollar will you spend during this time?
  - a. Below 20 dollar
  - b. 20 dollar
  - c. 30-40 dollar
  - d. More than 40 dollar
  
10. What did you find the feeling of local people about tourists?
  - a. Excellent
  - b. Good
  - c. Satisfactory
  - d. Poor



### Questionnaire for local people

1. Name of the respondent
2. Age ( ) 16-25 ( ) 25-30 ( ) 30-45  
( ) 46-55 ( ) 56 and above
3. Sex: ( ) Male ( ) Female
4. What is your occupaiton?
  - a. Farming
  - b. Service
  - c. Business
  - d. Others .....
5. What religion do you follow?
  - a. Hinduism
  - b. Buddhism
  - c. Christianity
  - d. Others .....
6. What is your feeling about tourism?
7. Are you benefited from Tourism Business?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
8. If not what are the reasons behind?
  - a. Domination of elites
  - b. Low income
  - c. Lack of awareness
  - d. Lack of training
9. What things do you think, to attract for the tourists?
  - a. Lake
  - b. Forest
  - c. Wildlife
  - d. Local culture
  - e. Others
10. What is liked by the tourists most in Kanchanpur?
  - a. Physical thing
  - b. Natural thing
  - c. medical thing
  - d. Cultural thing
  - e. Do not know

11. Generally, how long do the tourists stay in this area?
  - a. Few hours
  - b. One night
  - c. Two nights
  - d. Three nights
  - e. More than three nights
12. Do you know relationship between tourism and agriculture?
13. What is the role of tourism to boost up agriculture in Kanchanpur?
14. How is the follow of tourist in Kanchanpur?
15. What are the problems for development of tourism business in Kanchanpur?
16. What are you expecting from government to develop tourism business in Kanchanpur?
17. Whose idea initiated people in Kanchanpur to start Rural Tourism?
18. What are the tariff rates for foreign/international and domestic tourists?
19. How was Kanchanpur before it started up their homes to accommodate visitors?
20. Whether there is scope for expanding households' participaiton in Rural Tourism as tourists volumes increased?
21. Whether the concerned local institutions are aware to face the challenges of increasing visitors flow, creating link with local development and diversifying in tourism product to increase visitor stay?