

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. Introduction

In Geographic terms Mountains are faulted or folded strata of elevated landforms with steepness of slope and enormous environmental contrasts within a short distance. They are formed by the movement of rocks that make up the Earth's tectonic plates. As the plates push against each other, they buckle up at the edges and push some parts of the earth's surface up and some down giving rise to valleys and mountains. This geomorphic process is known as the Geosynclines theory of mountain building. Depending upon the rock structure and the building process mountains are of different forms. Some mountains are solitary peaks, some are joined together to form a line or series, called as a range and when the ranges are grouped together they form a chain. The Andes (7,200km), the Rockies (4,800km) and the Himalayas (2,400km) stretch as the three largest mountain ranges of the world. "These massive geo-ecological structures offer enchanting scenic beauty, inspiration and symbol of peace and strength for mankind. As such high mountains are regarded as objects of worship, abode of gods, ideal place for natural laboratories for research and to communicate with nature" (Poudel, 2003).

A mountain is a landform that stretches above the surrounding land in a limited area usually in the form of a peak. It is generally steeper than a hill. There is no universally-accepted definition of mountain, though some definitions have been created and applied. Often, whether something is called a mountain depends on what it is called by the local people. One more objective definition is that mountains are land areas that are >2,500m in height, or 1500-2499m if their slope is >2 degrees, or 1000-1499m if their slope is >5 degrees and local (radius 7km) elevation is >300m, or 300-999m if their local (radius 7km) elevation is >300m ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain:retrived on 2009/02/ 26](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain:retrived_on_2009/02/26)).

Mountains cover 64 percent of Asia, 25 percent of Europe, 22 percent of South America, 17 percent of Australia, and 3 percent of Africa. As a whole, 24 percent of the

Earth's land mass is mountainous. Ten percent people of the globe live in mountainous regions. Most of the world's rivers are fed from mountain sources, and more than half of humanity depends on mountains for water. All 50 of the world's tallest mountains are in Asia (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain>:retrived on 2009/02/ 26).

A number of mountains and mountain ranges of the world have been left in their natural state, and are today primarily used for recreation, while others are used for logging, mining, grazing, or see little use of any sort at all. Some mountains offer spectacular views from their summits, while others are densely wooded. Summit accessibility ranges from mountain to mountain; height, steepness, latitude, terrain, weather, and the presence or lack there of roads, lifts or tramways are all factors that affect accessibility. Hiking, backpacking, mountaineering, rock climbing, ice climbing, downhill skiing, and snowboarding are recreational activities typically enjoyed on mountains. Mountains that support heavy recreational use (especially downhill skiing) are often the locations of mountain resorts.

The mountains are an arena of triumph and tragedy that have never failed to attract men and women since antiquity. The Ancient Greeks shunned the mountains lest they offend the Gods, who lived among the clouds. Asians consider the mountains holy and worship the eternal shows. In ancient Tibet whenever one neared the top of a high mountain pass an offering of rice was thrown into the air shouting, "tse-otso , tse-tso" – long life-long life (Neale, 2002). Even today no expedition nor any Sherpa step on the mountain slopes without having paid respect to the mountain goddess *Chomolungma* by offering thick smoke of junipers and reverberating prayers facing the mountain. Alpine valley dwellers climbed only to hunt for game and gems. They thought that the mountains inhabited fire breathing dragons and other horrors. As such mountains have always instilled a genuine fear yet generated an air of respect.

Nepal is a land embodying the tourist magnetic diversity in both nature and culture and in the background of the heritage there stands aloft, the appraised enterprise of Nepal, the SAGARMATHA (Sharma, 2008). The prime tourism attractions of Nepal are nature, culture and religious resources. Nepal is endowed with unique cultural famous

for its natural beauty and nature based adventure tourism (Shrestha, 2006), Nepal is rich in terms of its natural beauty and cultural heritage. She has got beautiful flora and fauna as natural gifts. Nepal's beautiful high landscapes, lakes, green valleys, waterfalls, streams and hillsides scattered in the form of an endless series of terraces have been the source of great attraction and admiration. The religions, customs, life style, festivals, food habits, clothing, and languages of different people differ as per geographical and ethnic variations. One remarkable feature of Nepalese culture is persisting harmony in the midst of diversity. Trekking and mountaineering is the major factor of tourists attraction in the country.

Mountaineering is the sport, hobby or profession of walking, hiking, trekking and climbing up mountains. It is also sometimes known as alpinism, particularly in Europe. While it began as an all-out attempt to reach the highest point of unclimbed mountains. It has branched into specializations addressing different aspects of mountains and may now be said to consist of three aspects: rock-craft, snow-craft and skiing, depending on whether the route chosen is over rock, snow or ice. All require great athletic and technical ability, and experience is also a very important part of the matter. Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation of Nepal defines "Mountaineering means an all of expedition on any peak of the mountain range of Nepal by any team with the intention of reaching to the summit" (MoTCA, 2004:2).

Mountain Climbing, or mountaineering, is the practice of ascending to elevated points or peaks, is historically a quest for the challenges of new routes and peaks. Early attempts to ascend mountain peaks were motivated by scientific, geographic, or spiritual quests, but mountain climbing evolved into a sport by the mid-eighteenth century. By that time, techniques for snow, ice, and rock climbing had developed, and an elite class of professional guides had become established.

There are three types of mountain climbing (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mountain>:retrived on 2009/02/ 26). In the easiest, trail climbing, participants merely hike along trails to the top of a particular mountain. The trails generally are not very steep, and the mountains are relatively small. Rock climbing takes place on steeper slopes and larger

mountains. Participants generally have to ascend on hands and feet, employing special equipment that may include thick rubber-soled boots or other special shoes, rope, and steel spikes, known as pitons that are driven into the rock as an aid to climbing. Ice climbing is generally required only on extremely high mountains whose peaks are above the timber line. Equipment used in ice climbing includes the ice axe and attachable boot spikes, known as crampons that are used on hard ice or snow. Therefore, mountaineering demands skill, training, team work, patience and comparatively high expenditure.

Trekking means a journey to be undertaken on foot for sight seeing in areas where normally modern transport system is not available (MoTCA, 2008). Nepal being a mountainous country, it is known as the “trekker’s paradise”, hosting one of the most adventurous escapes of the world. Trekking is an all season activity. However, the spring and the autumn are the most preferred seasons. Even during the rainy season the rain shadow areas attract a number of trekkers. The major trekking areas in Nepal lie along the Himalayan foothills, mid-hills and Mahabharat hills. Due to the difficulty topography of the land; access by vehicle is very limited. Therefore, the best means of exploring the country is on foot. Depending on the area to trek in and the degrees of difficulty willing to face, a wide range of trek can be organized. Since most treks start and end in relatively low areas, climbing towards higher valleys, one will be walking through altitudinal variation; differing natural scenarios, natural vegetation and one may even encounter various wild animals. One will also be able to meet different ethnic groups and discover the various aspects of Nepalese society and Culture.

In Nepal Himalayas a trekking peak is a mountain under 7,000 meters (22,965 ft) that is climbable with a moderate amount of mountaineering experience and skills (<http://74.125.95.104/search?q=cache:JIXZLurxP5wJ:summitsherpas.com/+www.nepalmountaineering.org&hl=ne&ct=clnk&cd=51&gl=np> retrieved on September 23, 2008)

. While some can be climbed without crampons or an ice axe, most require use of this equipment. In order to attempt a trekking peak, a climbing permit (non-refundable royalty) must be obtained from the Nepal Government and from Nepal Mountaineering

Association (NMA) in Kathmandu. Generally Peaks above 7,000m are categorized as expedition peaks and demand much higher permit fees.

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) established on November 1, 1973 is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-political organization working as a National Alpine Association of Nepal to promote mountain tourism, climbing sports, protect mountain environments and preserve and promote cultural heritage of mountain people(Nepal Parbat, 2006). It is the only national alpine club authorized to issue climbing permits for 33 mountain peaks of Nepal. Since then it has been active in the promotion of mountain tourism and the conservation of the mountain ecology in the country besides its other activities including philanthropic ones.

NMA peaks refer to those 33 mountain peaks of Nepal for which Government of Nepal has authorized NMA to issue climbing permits. The peaks have been categorized as Group A and Group B.

## **2. Statements of the Problem**

If there were no mountains, men would create them: like the Pyramids in the featureless Sahara. If there were mountains, men would adorn them with life (Gurung, 1968). Therefore, mountains have been the principal home of the major world civilization and they have attracted men since antiquity. Nepal's identity is deeply enshrined in the mountains and because of the presence of Himalaya Mountains in a long stretch from east to west. Nepal is a land for all seasons. Year around there are a myriad places to go, people to meet and sites to see. Besides, there are exciting adventurous activities like Trekking, Mountaineering, Hel-Ski, white water Rafting, Biking, Paragliding, Bungee Jumping, Rock climbing, Canyoning and Jungle Safaris, there is a delightful, never-ending procession of colorful festivals. Nepal is a dominantly mountainous country and a land where mountain arts and culture are well preserved. About two third of its total area is covered with mountains and hills which embodies the tourism agnatic diversity of nature and culture.

The Himalayan range is the highest mountain range in the world. Nepal's Himalayan ranges have its own outstanding charm and beauty. Within this territory different world famous 14 highest mountain like Mt. Everest (8,848m), Kanchenjunga(8,586m), Lhotse(8,516m), Makalu(8,463m), Choyo (8,201m), Dhaulagiri(8,167), Manaslu(8,163m) and Annapurna\_I (8,091m) are located. It is, therefore, the Nepal Himalayas that has remained the centre of attraction to the people throughout the world for ages. It is equally a suitable and charming place for a saint or a philosopher or a researcher or for an adventurer or a conqueror. Now mountain tourism has become major sector of development to enhance tourism industry as a whole.

Along with the increasing rate of mountaineering, trekking and rafting economic activities have also been simultaneously increasing. Nepal has a limited capacity to generate convertible foreign currencies in this respect; mountain tourism is regarded as one of the best reliable and sustainable source to generate convertible foreign exchange in Nepal. In this perspective, this work is a timely attempt which may significantly help to make mountain tourism sustainable in Nepal in general and in NMA peaks in particular. And NMA peaks have notably contributed in promoting mountain tourism in Nepal. However, very few attentions have been given on the systematic study of mountaineering in NMA peaks.

### **3. Objective of the Study**

The general objective of this research work is to analyse the role of NMA permitted peaks in development of mountain tourism in Nepal. The specific objectives are:

- i) To find out the distribution of NMA Peaks
- ii) To trace the trend of climbers to NMA Peak
- iii) To analyze the economic contribution of NMA Peak
- iv) To identify for sustainable development of mountain tourism in all NMA permitted Peaks
- v) To identify the major problems for trekkers and mountaineers

#### **4. Justification of the Study**

Nepal, being a developing country, depends heavily on agriculture, and agriculture depends on monsoon. Problems like unemployment and population growth are increasing day by day. There are no large scale industries for the development of the country. However, Nepal has higher potentiality of development mountain tourism. Therefore it is necessary to analyze/study nature, trend of mountain and present tourism in NMA permitted peaks area. Nepal has three major resources to build up its economy. They are agriculture, hydropower and tourism. Among them, tourism is the key industry which can effortlessly be established, promoted and developed with minimum investment and can be made an important foundation of national income. So it is one of the chief sectors for economic development. It is fact that Nepal has three major resources to build up national economy. They are agriculture, hydropower and tourism. Among them, tourism is the key industry because Nepal is rich in natural heritage which can effortlessly be established, promoted and developed with minimum investment and can be made an important foundation of national income. But no specific and detail study of this kind has been done.

#### **5. Limitation of the Study**

First of all the present study lacks field observation. Secondary sources are mostly referred to. This study limited in only peaks opens for trekking permitted from Nepal Mountaineering Association. Only 33 peaks come under it. The analyzed data are up to 2006/07. And only five years data has been analyzed. The ten questionnaires only have been filled by the respondents.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Review of Different Books, Articles and Dissertations**

Despite the short history of modern tourism in Nepal as compared to other Asian countries, there are different kinds of profound literature viable on tourism, tourism activities and tourist products related to Nepal. In this chapter an attempt has been made to provide the theoretical foundation of tourism. In dealing with theoretical foundation some books, studies, magazines, reports, regulation and dissertations that are directly and indirectly relevant to proposed study have been reviewed.

Bhanja (1944) made a study on the “Lure of the Himalaya”. The study discusses about the very early Himalayan exploration, even before the British Raj. However, more focus is made on the early stories associated with Mt. Everest. The illicit exploration, the discovery and height calculations are some of the issues dealt with. Also mentioned the typical mountain flora and fauna and the physiographic. The study has helped to get acquainted with fascinating stories of the pre modern era (the Greeks/Arabs and Mughals/European) and their efforts to conquer the mountains.

Gurung (1968) in his book “Annapurna to Dhaulagiri” provide the beginning tourism that Exploration of Nepal Himalaya truly started in 1949. He further discussed as that year was concerned primarily as scientific exploration started by an American expedition led by Ripley visited Rekcha (West Nepal) and chainpur (East Nepal). It became as a sign for the future influx of expeditions into unexplored Nepal. Swiss geologist Heim made an aerial flight over Dhaulagiri in the same year and proved a precursor to the future Swiss entanglement with that peak.

Shrestha (1975) in his Journal entitled “Nepal Industrial Digest” had carried out the study towards the growth rate of tourism and potential resources of tourism in Nepal. He focused that, in today’s world whether it be developed or undeveloped, tourism is most essential. It provides foreign currency exchange to prove the country’s balance of



payment but also opens the door of employment opportunity and contributing in agricultural development to raise the living standard.

Berger (1978) in Ph. D. dissertation find out that tourism plays an important role in the Nepalese Economy and it has been a promising instrument for earning foreign exchange. He include that it requires high investment in both public as well as in private sectors, providing relatively few jobs and offering little scope for the improvement of personal and regional income distribution. The study has suggested developing tourism to the extent that foreign exchange is needed for development purposes of the country and tourism industry should be developed in terms of labor incentive rather than capital incentive in developing countries like Nepal.

Taguchi (1983), in her Masteral thesis titled “Trekking in Nepal” found out that the number of tourist arrival from 1962 to 1981 had rapidly increased, trekking and mountaineering tourism is the second largest segment of Nepalese tourism. She also has asserted that Nepal is a paradise for trekkers and it has an important role in Nepalese economy especially foreign exchange earnings. Further she has described the problems faced by tourists like granting of visa and the laws relating to tourism.

Karan and Mather (1985) in journal “the Geographical Review, studied tourism and environment in the Mt. Everest region. They found that pressures of the hordes of overseas tourists and trekkers in this region have brought a plethora of environmental disruption to these formally remote and unspoiled regions. The tourists usually arrive between May and October and have become a cause of deforestation because of their demand for firewood. The waste water from the hotels has caused local pollution, although the smell of alpine trees is still stronger than the stench of wastewater.

The Nepal Tourism Development Programme (1989) has reviewed the plan policies, past studies including the Nepal Tourism Master Plan 1972 and review 1984. The programme has analyzed market trends and strategy, institutional framework, environmental impacts, importance of education, training and incentives to be provided for tourism industry. This report recommended that most of the capital investment and

the service should be provided by the private sector, the formation of Nepal tourism commission and ecotourism unit and improving the capacity of the ministry of tourism assuming its responsibilities in tourist administratively, institutionally and technically. This program included upgrading of the conservation area, Pokhara air port, Lakeside tourist trail and garden, eco-tourism development, trekking and conservation area improvement in Gorkha.

Gurung (1990) in “Environmental Management of Mountain Tourism in Nepal” deals with the pattern of tourism activities, environmental impact of tourism and capacity of trekking route. The study shows that deforestation in the mountain region is the result of over grazing and fuel wood extraction rather than tourism. It also mentions that poor people and non degradable materials used by trekkers are responsible for the negative effects of the environment. It has analyzed the problem of deforestation and environmental pollution in different trekking and mountaineering routes. Its main recommendation for the environmental protection measures are

- ) to increase the entry fee in over crowded routes,
- ) to increase the flow of trekking in less crowed route like Pokhara/ Jomsom/Manang etc. and
- ) to open new trekking route.

Further, the study stresses to use gas or oil in trekking route to preserve the forest. The study provides appropriate and burning issues for research on mountain tourism in Nepalese context.

Gurung (1995) in a Discussion paper “Tourism and Gender, Impacts and Implication of Tourism on Nepalese women” Examines some of the consequences of tourism on women and found that trekking tourism has opened new economic opportunities for mountain region. A shift from agriculture to tourist catering has eased the work burden of mountain women’s to some extent. The infrastructure like drinking water system, health and roads constructed for tourism is providing benefits to mountain people too, which have helped mountain women to save their time for other productive

works. Mountain tourism has offered scope for diversifying the participation and involvement of women in favor of mono-traditional activities such as teashops, lodges and hotels. So, tourism has played important role for mountain women to improve their living standard.

Shrestha (1998) in his Ph. D. dissertation found that Nepal is rich in tourism that its products exist all over the world. Natural wealth, culture and monumental heritage bequeathed by history are the tourism products of Nepal. Nepal possesses tremendous diversities and potentialities to develop as a major tourist destination from diverse perspectives which has crated a special niche in the arena of adventure tourism in the world.

According to him, one of the basic necessities for the tourism development is infrastructure which has not reached in all areas. It has substantially increased in terms of volume but quality of service does not seem to be satisfactory. More than 50% of hotel accommodation facilities are concentrated in Katmandu valley. Most of the accommodation facilities outside the valley are in non-star category. So, the significant attention has to be paid to improve such facilities in order to develop the existing tourism areas as well as develop potential areas. He emphasis on the satisfaction of tourist with weather, natural scenery of Nepal, wild animals, Peoples' behavior, sense of authenticity and remoteness, culture, entertainment, language, communication, agency services and guide services. However, tourists are not seemed to be satisfied as per their expectation with immigration, transportation, airline, safety, lodging, sight seeing tours shopping facilities, tourist information services and food and drinks in Nepal.

Sthapit (1998) reviews sustainability of mountain tourism in Nepal Travel Trade Report. He conclude that tourism become the source of earning freeing currency with geometric rise in services catering to tourists (hotels, travel agencies, restaurants): Consequently some of the localities like Thamel and Lakeside Pokhara have been totally changed but the quality of the services provided to the tourist has gradually declined.

Sharma (1998) in his paper supports the approaches of promoting mountain tourism for local development in Nepal. He concluded that the tourism activity related to mountain region like, mountaineering, trekking, adventure, tourism, culture tourism, resort, pilgrimage tourism etc. and mountain communities means communities of people living in a defined areas, sharing common, natural resources for their livelihoods and having a common interest in benefiting from the use and management of these resource. The paper highlights that the mountain tourism can be made sustainable only if it contributes to the economic, environmental and socio-cultural development of mountain communities.

Pradhan (1999) in the journal “The Himalayan Review” provided a view that Tourism is regarded as the world’s largest industry and a fore earner of global economy. World tourist arrivals exceeded the 800 million mark in 2005 and reached 842 million in 2006. The receipts from international tourists amounted to US\$445 billion in 1998 with international tourist arrivals reaching to 625 million the same year. Between 1989 and 1998 international tourism receipts grew at a rate of +8.1 percent annually.

Shrestha (1999) in her Ph. D. dissertation is concerned with the problems and prospect to tourism in Nepal. The main finding of her study are: i) tourism has emerged as a major segment of Nepalese economy contribution substantially to the foreign exchange earnings ii) employment generation and iii) overall economic development of the country, she conclude the lack ness of physical infrastructure in tourism spots. Most of the service infrastructures are mainly concentrated in major urban areas and few popular trekking routes.

She has further recommended certain strategies to develop tourism in Nepal by producing new and suitable catering to the interest of all types of tourist by age, sex and occupation and to introduce both urban and rural tourism products. The road net work should be well developed and existing road conditions should be properly improved. She further recommended to develop another international airport preferably in the Terai region that would be technically and economically viable. Solar energy and small hydropower” project are recommended especially on the trekking routes and at wildlife

resorts with view to protect natural environment of the area. The use of satellite communication media such as international televisions channels, CNN, BBC, ZTV etc. internet, CD-ROM should be used for promotional purposes.

Sharma (1999) in an article /Euro- I will it/ Boost Tourism/, published in Nepal Travel Trade Reporter shows that one of the biggest obstacles of tourism is air pollution. So, Sharma stresses that pollution control measures should be enforced at Katmandu and other destination cities like Pokhara and Lumbini.

Poudyal (1999) in his paper enunciates that tourism can be engine for the economic growth in SAARC region since the development like export trade, foreign exchange earnings, agriculture industries, transport and communication development fishing and horticulture. The development of tourism should aim at generating more employment and income opportunities in the economics, correcting regional imbalances and benefiting lower level of people as well. For the development of tourism, in this region, poudyal has recommended that joint efforts should be made by all member states to sell the SAARC region as a single destination in the international tourism market and to attract extravagant tourists. SAARC member countries can attempt for the establishment of trans SAARC airlines to obtain more benefits from the arrival of tourist.

Chand (2000) in his study 'Nepal's Tourism Uncensored Facts' discusses on the development of Nepalese Tourism ever since the emergence of Prithvi Narayan Shah in 1768 till the contemporary situation. He makes a vivid description of the tourism aspect of Nepal in three stages namely, the pre-democracy period (the ruling period of the Shah and the Rana dynasties), the pre-democracy period (aftermath the advent of democracy in 1950) and the contemporary ( the period after the peoples war of 1990). The study has provided a more than clear picture of the problems and prospects of the Nepalese tourism industry. A brief summary of Chand's study forms an important part of the present study pertaining to the development of tourism in Nepal.

Baharacharya (2000) in "Nepal parbat" shows that trekking and mountaineering tourism have become the second most important segment in the tourism market of Nepal.

The tourist arrivals for various purposes after 1999 are worrying. Though trekking and mountaineering, tourism can create significant number of employment and gain the foreign exchange. Nepal has eight of the fourteen peaks a above 8,000m height, also 122 peaks above 7,00m and 1,400 above 600, it is not only Mt. Everest but also other famous have been a perennial source of attractions. Despite, many prospects of mountaineering and trekking, many problems have emerged in this sector like environmental degradation, lack of security condition.

Kamal(2000) in his theses Eco- tourism for Local Community Development in the Mountain Areas: a study on the potentiality of Eco-Tourism in the chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh has discovered a confidence that the eco-tourism industry can play an important and positive for the protection of the natural environment in the area. Therefore eco-tourism will positively enhance the scope of sustainable development of the particular area. Some of the important reforms have been identified as simplification of visa and permit procedures, opening of new peaks and restricted areas, removal of seasonal barrier for expeditions and scraping of the compulsory provision for foreign teams to submit recommendation letters from the concerned countries alpine clubs.

Hall and Page (2002) in their book “The Geography of Tourism and Recreation: Environment, Place and Space” has concluded that Tourism reflects the interconnectedness of the place and places of both international and domestic destinations. It is perhaps a phenomenon which depends more than most not only on transport, service and trading networks but also on social, political and environmental relationships between the consumers and producers of the tourist experience.

Basnet (2003) in an article entitled sustainability in Rural Tourism was published on 3 July, 2003. He states that rural tourism has emerged as a priority component of the Nepal tourism industry. It seems to be an appropriate tool to revitalize the declining rural areas and to ensure their sustainable future by job creation, service retention, broadened cultural provision, landscape and natural conservation or the maintenance and promotion of rural arts crafts as tourist’s attractions.

Upadhya (2003) has written that, In the middle ages, merchants, explorers, pilgrims and students traveled in various places. After that, the rise of industrial revolution in the world brought major changes in the range and type of tourism development (Gurung: 2007).

Upadhyay(2003) in his Ph.D. dissertation entitled Tourism as a Leading sector in Economic Development in Nepal, found that the tourism is important not only from the point of view of earning foreign exchange but also enhance scope of various industrial sectors like hotels, motels and restaurants. Similarly, food services, transport and communication services and facilities, amusement and other leisure activities, fifth shops and several other activities such as fruit production and procession, etc. can equally flourish.

Nepal (2003) has published a book which is an updated and abridged version of his Ph. D. dissertation Himalaya” Comparative Analysis of the Everest, Annapurna, Upper Mustang Regions. He found that comparison across the three regions indicate that the intensity or speed of tourism development corresponds to increased level of environmental degradation. The environmental impacts can be controlled and minimized, provided appropriate policies and actions or implemented by locally based institutions.

Khadka (2004) published an article Mountain Tourism in Nepal on AFRO-ASIAN Journal. According to him, Nepal has immense natural and cultural beauty and popularly known as paradise for trekkers. So there are enormous opportunities to develop mountain tourism. Promotion of the sustainable mountain tourism brings economic welfare social, tolerance, human understanding and world peace.

Ranjitkar (2004) in an article published on Nepal parbat on the topic Cho Oyu Corridor indicate that it is very beautiful area and has become an attraction for foreign tourists as well as mountaineers and trekkers. The corridor is the home of snow peaks, mountain scenery and well known Sherpa people. It is renowned for its unique natural and cultural landscape. Because of increasing mountaineering and trekking activities in this corridor, the future of this corridor seems to be very promising and bright.

Hawley (2007) in an interview published in Nepal Travel Trade Reporter shares her opinion on the topic, “Royalty fees of the popular peaks should not be lowered.” She says that if the royalty for the Nepalese peaks is lowered, then even more climbers will get access to the mountains, especially the Mt. Everest, thereby posing a threat to the fragile mountain eco-system.

Sharma (2008) in his thesis “Fatalities of Mountaineers in the Nepalese Himalayas: A Case Study of Mount Everest” has point out that Mountaineering is one of the most dominating activities in the Nepalese Tourism industry. Having the longest experience of conducting mountaineering expeditions in the Himalayas, Nepal down the years have evolved as an ultimate mountaineering hub.

Information available on ([www.nepalmagic.com/tourism\\_in\\_nepal.html](http://www.nepalmagic.com/tourism_in_nepal.html) retrieved on 2065/3/08) focused that Tourism forms a major part of the revenues in Nepal. With mountaineering is the backbone of tourism in Nepal with several trekkers, and mountaineers pouring in each year in increased number.

Information related to mountain tourism available on [www.answers.com/mountaineering&r=67](http://www.answers.com/mountaineering&r=67) 2065/3/08 defined that Mountain Climbing, or mountaineering, the practice of ascending to elevated points or peaks, is historically a quest for the challenges of new routes and peaks.

The previous studies and researches have not match the objectives of this research. They were mostly about general tourism. Anyway, they helped in this research in methodology, concept of tourism etc. but this research is specific research for Nepal Mountaineering Association Permitted Peaks. No literature directly related to NMA peaks has been found that would meet the objective of the study.



## **2.2 Review of Government Policy and Programmes**

### **2.2.1 Introductions**

Tourism development planning is essential to receive maximum benefit with least burden on fragile natural and social cultural resources. Without planning, it may create unexpected and superfluous impacts. In general terms, planning is to maximize the positive benefits on development and minimize any negative impact in a sustainable manner. Planning means shaping the future. This requires knowledge of the present on development trends, from which the future can be forecast, as well as control of techniques and methods which govern the transformation from the present state to a future one. Planning, in tourism provides a bridge between the present situation and the desired further situation in a destination area (Tewari, 1994:181). Therefore, some of the important points regarding mountain tourism planning can be categorized as follows:

- ) Tourism is a complicated, multispectral and fragmented activity and closely, inter-related with other sectors such as local community, accommodation, eateries and transportation. Planning profit development and co-ordination are particularly necessary to ensure that tourism should be developed in an integrated manner.
- ) Tourism brings various direct and indirect economic benefits to local people that can be best optimized through careful and integrated planning. It cannot be organized in isolation, as it requires particular skilled manpower. Furthermore, balanced tourism development requires marketing strategies, promotional programs, effective legislation and regulation. Without comprehensive planning, these factors cannot be implemented.

### **2.2.2 Government Efforts on Tourism Development**

After the advent of democracy in 1951, the entrance of tourism was opened in Nepal. However, only after, 1956, different National Development Plans were launched. From then, the country has been giving to importance towards the development of tourism. Different plans formulated by the country on Mountain Tourism. Development area as follows:

The First Five Year Plan (1956-61) Nepal had become a new destination for the tourist. The international tourist has focused Nepal as one of the places for the new attraction in the world owing to her immense potentialities. Keeping this in view, Tourism Development Board was established in 1957, which was transferred to the Ministry of Transport and Communication in 1958. During the plan period, Nepal joined various international tourism organizations. The setting up of rates of various standards, establishment of travel agencies, development of Tribhuvan International Airport and Tourism Guide Training were some of the achievements of the first five year plan.

Having realized the importance of tourism as a major source of foreign exchange earning, emphasis was given to promote Nepal's image in abroad and develop travel agencies, hotels during the Second Three Year Plan (1962-65). The most important achievement of this plan for tourism was the establishment of Company Act 1964 to regulate and develop tourist sector. The new tourist resorts were explored and constructed in Pokhara, Lumbini, Kakani and Nagarkot. The development of sightseeing services trained guides and increasing publicity of Nepal in the international market were other priorities. The Third Five Year Plan (1965-70) emphasized to develop tourism infrastructure by establishing hotels, extending aviation facilities, publicizing Nepal in abroad, and producing of promotional films related to Nepal. It also focused to distribute tourism materials, conservation of temples, historical places and development of Mahendra Museum. Efforts were made accordingly and an advisory committee for tourism was set up in 1968. After a few years, Nepal Tourism Development Committee replaced the advisory Committee (Shrestha, 2000:179).

Similarly, The Fourth Five Year Plan (1970-1975) sought to enlarge the scope of tourism with trade as an important source of increasing national income and foreign exchange earnings. The Nepal Tourism Master Plan (1972) was formulated during the Fourth Five Year Plan period with the joint co-operation of the government of Federal Republic of Germany under the chairmanship of HRH Himalaya Bir Bikram Shah in 1971. The main objectives of Nepal Tourism Master Plan were:

- ) To develop international tourism and provide sustained economic benefit to Nepal.

- J To provide a planned development of tourism sector and best utilization of the resources and possibilities of Nepal.
- J To induce economic activities through tourism the would assist in the development of agriculture, industry, infrastructure, foreign exchange earning and employment opportunities’
- J To develop tourism in a manner that would preserve and enhance the social, cultural and historical values of Nepal.

The plan also aimed to establish Tourism Information Centre in Pokhara and Birgunj. The private sector was encouraged providing loans for hotel and industry through Nepal Industrial Development Corporation (NIDC). Foreign experts were also invited to prepare effective master plan for tourism development in Nepal.

Tourism Master Plan pointed out the potentiality of sightseeing and trekking tourism of Nepalese style including the recreational tourism as well as international pilgrims in the country.

### **2.3.3 Tourism Master Plan-1972**

In the Nepalese tourism history, to develop tourism in a planned manner and to formulate appropriate tourism development policy, Nepal tourism master plan was prepared in 1972 with joint co-operation of Bundesstelle Fur Entwicklungshilfe of Germany and the government of Nepal. This plan had important features with two phases: phase one (1972-750i and phase two (1976-1980). This master plan determined the tourism development programs and projects for ten years. The master plane surveyed attractions of Nepal, both natural and cultural, and found great potentialities for tourism development. The main features of this plan were given below:

- (i) The plan proposed five different types of tourism in Nepal which are as follows:
  - J Sight seeing tourism
  - J Trekking tourism
  - J Recreational tourism / pilgrimage tourism and

) Nepal style tourism

(i) The USA, France and UK were identified as the primary market and West Germany, Japan, Scandinavia and Australia had been the target as secondary markets. Nepal was known as the tourism market of the world because of mountaineering expeditions but Nepal should publicize its other attractions in the world travel markets.

(ii) Kathmandu was seen as the centre of tourism activities. For this the following activities were proposed:

) To increase the duration of stay of tourists, sight seeing tours in the west and east of the valley, the development of resort areas with appropriate recreational facilities were recommended.

) Place of high natural and cultural interest was thought for integration into west-ward and east-ward tours included Kathmandu-Gorkha,) Pokhara-Tansen-Lumbini-Chitwan-Kathmandu circuits. Following activities were proposed for west-ward tour:

) Development of Pokhara and Chitwan should be forwarded for tourism.

) New facilities at Lumbini and Tansen should be developed.

) Overnight facilities at Gorkha should be provided.

) Resort areas should be developed at Tansen and Gorkha to fulfill Indian recreational demand.

) Chitwan National Park should be extended.

The second East-ward destinations were Kathmandu, NamcheBazaar, Janakpur and Chitwan. For these eastwards tours following activities were proposed.

) Development of National Parks at Lang tang, Annapurna, Dhaulagiri and Khumbu regions.

) Development of pilgrimage centre at Lumbini, Muktinath, Barah Chhetra and Janakpur.

) Development of resort area with of basic infrastructure was thought for different locations in Kathmandu, Pokhara, Tansen, Lumbini, Chitwan and Gorkha, etc.

- ) The need of investment flow from the public and private sector was envisaged; the public sector for necessary infrastructure and private sector for industries such as accommodation facilities.

On the institutional aspect, the master plan recommended for the establishment of the ministry of tourism and culture as an authoritative body for overall planning, promotion and development of tourism.

The Fifth Five Year Plan (1975-80): focused on the reservation of historic, cultural and natural attractions of the kingdom, to promote tourism and south to spread its growth in other potential areas from the Kathmandu Valley where tourism was mostly concerned. The preference was given in increasing the air fields and lengthening the road. The Fifth Five Year Plan adopted an integrated approach with the following objectives:

- ) To increase the foreign exchange earning and thereby improving balance of payment situation.
- ) To increase employment opportunities in tourism sector by developing skill and ability
- ) To achieve balanced regional development by establishing tourist centers in deferent parts of the country.
- ) To encourage regional and inter-regional tourists.

The Sixth Five Year Plan (1980o-85) allocated a total amount of 20 million rupees in tourism sector. It adopted and integrated approach with the following objectives:

- ) To earn foreign exchange.
- ) To increase the number of tourists and length of their stay.
- ) To replace foreign goods by domestic products.
- ) To provide employment opportunities through tourism related industries.

The main concern were adaption of liberal policy in field of aviation, regulation of air services, tourism survey, research, compilation of authentic tourist data and producing manpower required for tourist industry. The programs included a Resort Area Development Project that made a detailed study on setting up polices in Ilam, Dhankuta, Kulekhani, Rupoatal, Begnastal, Shinagar and Rara areas.

The Seventh Five Year Plan (1985-1990): had the policy to attract investment from both the public and the private sector in tourism. The plan had allocated a budget of 74.34 million rupees for tourism development. The main objectives of the plan are as follows:

- ) To improve balance of payment situation through increases foreign exchange earning by attracting upper class tourists.
- ) To create new employment opportunities by utilizing tourism industry to a large capacity.
- ) To increase the length of stay by extending tourism related activities and business where tourism infrastructure is available. To encourage the use of local goods required for tourists thereby reducing imports gradually.

Mountain Tourism Development program was initiated to maintain the mountaineering, trekking, rafting, sight seeing by means of air ballooning. The plan also took into consideration for the protection of the nature. For the promotion of tourist, tourism industry in each development region was proposed.

The Eighth five Year Plan (1992-1997) allocated 3719 million rupees for the tourism development. There is highly emphasized in the promotion of cultural, historical and environmental asset by developing linkage between tourism and other sectors of the economy. The government of Nepal also had formulated Tourism Policy- 1995. dudring this plan period some of the notable changes had been observed such as previously restricted areas namely Manang and Mustang were opened for trekking.

To attract foreign investors, required atmosphere and suitable policies were formulated. The objectives of this were as follows:

- ) To maintain high image of the nation in international community by providing standard services and necessary security to the tourists.
- ) To increase employment, foreign currency earning and national income and to improve regional imbalance expanding the tourism industry up to the rural areas.
- ) To develop the tourism industry as a main economic sector of the nation by establishing its inter- or elation with other sectors of the economy.
- ) To develop and expand tourism industry by promoting natural cultural and human environment of the economy.

The Eighth five Year Plan launched many promotional programs such as to increase the number of tourists from the countries having greater spending capacities like East Asia, South East Asia, Australia, West Europe and the USA to increase Indian tourist. The plan also emphasized on developing trekking tourism in new and restricted areas.

The Ninth Five Year Plan (1997-2002I) highly emphasized to assist poverty alleviation program by making tourism sector a part of the all round economic development of the country. To intensify the process of industrialization, by developing various sectors such as agriculture, water resources, industry, tourism and transport. The government declared Destination Nepal which was operated for two years since 2058/59 to fiscal year 2060/61 and International year of mountain 2002 and Visit year 2003 had also been planned to operate tourism sector harmoniously and as an important program.

During this plan period, it was targeted to increase the number of tourists by 20 percent. The number of tourists expected to visit Nepal during the first and last year of this plan is 420,000 and 676,414 respectively. The Ninth Five Year Plan had the owing objectives regarding the promotion of tourism:

- ) To establish backward and forward linkage of the tourism sector with the national economy and to develop it as an important sector of economic development.

- ) To establish Nepal as a premium destination in the world tourism market through effective publicity and promotional activities.
- ) To enhance employment opportunities, income generation and foreign currency earning from the tourism sector and decentralize these benefits down to the village level.

The Ninth Five Year Plan had thrown limelight on the tourism activities focusing the rural tourists, according to the plan, were developed as the tourist centers. Tourist security, security arrangement and facilities in Tribhuvan international airport were extended and improved. Private sector was encouraged to make a significant contribution in qualitative and quantitative development of tourism. The production and use of indigenous tourist consumable goods and handicrafts were also emphasized. Temples, monasteries, building, national sites of historical, religious as tourist spots. The religious, cultural, historical and natural heritage of tourists spots, at the same time, were preserved with the active participation of local municipalities and village development committees across the country.

The plan was aimed to develop the all season tourism for which the plan had bought out some policies regarding the tourist trade festivals. Studies were carried out to know the feasibility of rafting tourism in major rivers like Koshi, Kali Gandaki, Karnali and Mahakali. The Ninth Year Plan adopted a long-term tourism development concept with the following objectives:

- ) To promote the use of high technical instruments like home pages, Internet, e-mail.
- ) To survey and keep the record of lakes, ponds, caves and water falls to attract public and tourist attention
- ) To study the international tourist, market thoroughly to implement the tourism promotional plans and, market by making conclusion of the finding.



#### **2.2.4 The Nepal Tourism Development Program (1998)**

The Nepal Tourism development Program (1998) was prepared by Touche Ross Management Consultants and funded by Asian Development Bank (ADB). It consisted of four reports which had recommended the overall development of tourism sector. NTDP has reviewed existing plans and policies and suggested timely modification for the sustainable use of tourism resources. The study had included past studies, master plan 1972 and its 1984 review. NTDP had analyzed various aspects tourism and Nepalese economy product development program, marketing strategy, environmental impact, importance of education and training, institutional framework for the development of tourism, incentives to be given to tourism industry. The Major output of the study was a set of action plan recommended for the growth and promotion of this sector in long and short term. The action plan was expected to:

- ) Release bottlenecks in Nepal's tourism industry
- ) Increase Nepal as a premium tourist product

The action plan covered over 50 projects that can broadly be categorized in to the following:

- ) Infrastructure
- ) Tourist attractions
- ) Accommodations
- ) Technical assistance and
- ) Economic linkage

The plan also recommended a number of suggestions regarding the development of tourism industry in Nepal. The suggestions, given by the program were as follows:

- ) To establish Mount Everest and the Himalayas as a 'must see' attraction for any world tourist.
- ) To establish Kathmandu valley as the mystic valley of 'Shangri-la kingdom'.
- ) To establish the Pokhara valley as 'the Gateway Mountain Resort to the Himalayas'.

- ) To establish and promote a series of outstanding excursions for the ordinary sight seeing travelers.
- ) To increase the budget for promotional program.
- ) To formulate the National Tourism Commission (NTC) and the development of the Department of Tourism exports within the Ministry of Tourism.

The report also produced and proposed 'Tourism Infrastructural Development' project by ADB with the total fund of US \$10.4 million. The infrastructure development projects proposed in the report were:

- ) To upgrade the Pokhara import and Pokhara –Sarangkot access road and to improve the environmental improvement of Pokhara and Gorkha conservation area.
- ) To develop the small Phewa Lakeside footpath and garden.
- ) To establish the two tourists service centers, one in Kathmandu and other in Pokhara.
- ) To upgrade the facilities at the Hotel Management and Tourism Training Centers (HMTTC).
- ) To develop model of ecotourism circuit from Pokhara-Sikles-Ghalegaun trekking route.

The Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2006) reviewed the problems and progress of the Ninth Five Year Plan and concluded that tourism industry is a backbone of developing country. The Tenth Plan had following objectives:

- ) To develop quality and sustainability in tourism sector.
- ) To conserve, preserve and maintain the historical, cultural and religious resources and increase their practical use.
- ) To improve, standardize and make air transport services easy accessible and affordable.

The Tenth Five Year Plan has also made some policies to develop tourism in Nepal which are as follows:

- J First, priority will be given to develop required infrastructure (road, communication, water supply, etc.) in co-operation and co-ordination with concerned ministries.
- J The role of local bodies will be increased to develop quality of tourism services and quality facilities of tourist and tourist market.
- J Tourism related commodities will be developed and emphasized in the communities.
- J When the tourism industry becomes competitive, new tourist destination will be developed and internal tourism will be enhanced.
- J Institutional arrangement will be made to develop required manpower for tourism in the country.
- J High priority will be given to the neighboring tourists like Indian and Chinese to make them increase their expenditure during their stay in Nepal.
- J Improve the tourism security and tourism transportation facilities.
- J For market exploration activity, new technologies like homepage, Internet, e-mail etc will be developed.
- J Emphasis will be given on the equipments used in the production of tourism products.

The challenges of The Tenth Year Plan are political instability, strike, people's movement, etc. Besides these, negative impact upon the tourist, lack of tourism infrastructure development, decrease in length of tourists stay and dealing less foreign exchange are the main challenges of the tenth plan.

#### **2.2.5 Three Year Interim Plan (2064/65-2066/67)**

To enhance contribution of tourism sector in national economy by promoting international and domestic tourism through development of international and national air service and urban and rural tourism destinations by Three Year Interim Plan focused on

- J New tourism products and destinations will be identified and developed with emphasis on increasing employment, regional balance and social inclusion.
- J New destinations based on the natural beauty and biodiversity potentials will be developed.

- )] New tourism areas and products based on religion, sports, meetings, incentives, conferences, Exhibition (MICE), health, education and others would be developed and expanded.
- )] With the objective of facilitating tourist arrival and supporting the export and import trade, the construction of the second international airport will be started. Similarly regional airports will also be developed.
- )] The airports destroyed due to the conflict will be reconstructed
- )] Looking at the potentials of developing tourism around large lakes, new ideas such as using large lakes for landing of small aircrafts. Hydro-planes a technical feasibility study would be conducted.

## **2.2.6 Tourism Policy Regulation and Programmes**

### **Tourism Policy**

The regulation and supervision of all tourism industries and activities have been mainly guided by the Tourism Act-1977 under which various regulations pertaining to various sub-sectors are in effect. There are three major regulations pertaining to the details of particular aspects of the Tourism Act 2035 BS.

- )] Travel and Trekking Agents Regulation, 2037 BS
- )] Regulation pertaining to hotels, lodges, restaurants, bars and tourist guides, 2038 BS
- )] Mountaineering Expedition Regulation, 2036 BS

### **Travel and Trekking Agent's Regulation, 2037 BS**

This regulation made three key stipulations in following way:

- )] A specified number of technically-sound personnel to be hired by every company seeking to run as travel/trekking agency.
- )] A bank guarantee of a specified amount is to be deposited with the department of tourism.

- J) A pledge to earn annually a stipulated amount of foreign currency (US\$ 30,000 for trekking and US\$ 15,000 for travel agencies) and to report periodically to the department in the given format is required.

### **Regulation pertaining to Hotels, Lodges, Restaurants, Bars and Tourist Guides**

According to Sharma and Vanskota (1995:96), “the hotel, lodge, restaurant and bar section of the Act made some provisions. Only hotels, lodges, restaurants and bars registered with the Department of Tourism (DoT) can use standard symbols, letters or any other symbols designed by the DoT and can strike agreements with foreign agents in connection with providing their services and facilities to tourists.

Persons wishing to work as tourist guides should obtain a license from the Department of Tourism. The license should be periodically renewed and its holder is expected to adhere to the code of conduct stipulated in the regulation. Any action of behavior defying this regulation is punishable by fine.

#### **2.2.7 Tourism Policy-1995**

The government of Nepal, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation had introduced a policy in 1995 and the cabinet approved it on 22 June 1995. There is a policy that identifies Nepal with unlimited potential for adventure tourism. So, it had stressed that the adventure tourism can be oriented in different interesting ways from the top of snowy mountains in the north to the plains of Teri in the south in the country. On foreign exchange, special policy was emphasized to increase the rate of foreign exchange earning by increasing arrivals of tourists and lengthening their stays.

This had also urged to preserve fragile mountain environment and ecology from deterioration caused by uncontrolled tourist activities. In view of maintaining environmental balance in the mountain region the policy had categorized trekking areas into the following three categories as per their level of infrastructure development:

- ) General trekking areas.
- ) Guided trekking areas.
- ) Controlled trekking areas.

Due to very sensitive ecology and lack of sufficient modern infrastructure, only certain tourists could visit to the guided and controlled trekking areas by paying additional fee and by abiding other various special provisions as prescribed by the policy. The policy had also stressed in creating and expanding tourism infrastructure in various potential cities. On the institutional front the policy had proposed to constitute a high level Tourism Council in the chairmanship of the Prime Minister along with the due participation of private sector in tourism. The main duty of this council was to coordinate various sectors for the interest of tourism development as well as to provide timely guidelines and directives to the concerned ministry and department. Likewise, for the execution and implementation of tourism sectors, policies and programmes were formulated. It constituted a “Tourism Development Board” comprising 8-10 members with a separate special fund, under the convenorship of the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation. Even being dynamic in many aspects, the present “Tourism Policy” is also not free from some challenges and weaknesses. The existing policies are grossly inadequate for linking mountain tourism with mountain economic activities. Scarce resources are exploited by a few for small gain. Consequently, sustainable tourism is being threatened.

#### **2.2.8 Tourism Policy 2065**

Recognizing the necessity of tourism promotion for economic change, the Government of Nepal has placed tourism in high priority of new economic policy since Fiscal Year 2065/066 (2008/09) and declared to frame a new tourism policy, by revising Tourism Policy 2052 (1995) and making the policies and activities of all concerned ministries oriented towards promotion of tourism. Together with the earning of foreign currency and increase in employment opportunity, it is found that tourism is required to be integrated with poverty alleviation and new economic development, by improving the living standards of people. In this background, it is expedient to revise the existing policy and frame a new tourism policy for the attainment of new height in tourism

promotion in order to lay the foundation for economic change. In this regard the following policies have been obtained:

- ) To attract maximum number of tourists in Nepal and to give continuity to this trend, besides different kind of attractive programmes, specific year or period shall be presented as Visit Nepal Year of Tourism year.
- ) In order to establish the image of Nepal in the global tourism market, 'branding' of Nepal shall be carried forward in an appropriate manner as a comprehensive tourism heritage and tourist spot
- ) Arrival and departure procedures at international airport shall be simplified and well managed.
- ) Effective programmes shall be implemented on rural tourism affiliating it with poverty alleviation.
- ) A mechanism shall be drawn and developed to provide access of poor, women, ethnic community, Madhesi and other communities, who was not included, to the benefits of tourism through rural tourism.
- ) Tourism enterprise shall be diversified, expanded and developed on the basis of professional tourism, mountaineering, trekking tourism, rafting, adventure tourism, cultural tourism, religious tourism, sports tourism, casino, cinema tourism, education tourism, health tourism, and agro tourism.
- ) Travel to tourist spots, which are considered sensitive from peace, security and military point of view, shall be regulated.
- ) For the search and rescue of tourists in trouble and crisis management, a revolving fund shall be established, and Nepal Tourism Board shall contribute definite amount in the fund every year.
- ) By extending the services of the national carrier, Nepal Airlines Corporation, which helps to bring more number of tourists into Nepal, services of the corporation shall be made more reliable, regular and effective.

## **Programmes**

### **2.2.9 Visit Nepal Year- 1998**

The Visit Nepal -1998 was a broad Nepalese campaign announced in the year 1996. It had the objectives of creation public awareness towards tourism, promoting the domestic tourism, mobilizing the private sector in the field of tourism and enhancing the quality of tourism goods in Nepal. It aimed to attract at least 500 thousands tourists during the visit year and launched various activities all over the country as an attractive tourist destination. The Ministry of Tourism aimed to indentify 109 new spots for the purpose of tourism during the year.

His Majesty the King inaugurated the Visit Nepal-1998 by formally opening the symbolic and artistic gate at Durbarmarg amidst the gathering of thousands of people. On the functions the areas of Nepal decorated in their own indigenous customs.

The core attractions of opening ceremony were of various unique activities like hotel, travel agencies reflected their outstanding features on decorated vehicles, which demonstrated their occupational activities being carried out in the country throughout the year. The seven gates constructed at various entry point of the city were designed, depicting the rich Nepalese culture and craftsmanship. The evening was observed by fireworks and food festivals at Tudikhel. The major objectives of The Visit Nepal-1998 were to:

- ) Increase the number of visitor arrival and elongate the duration of stay.
- ) Enhance the image of Nepal by repositioning it as a unique visitor destination.
- ) Improve and develop friendly and value based tourism product.
- ) Create intense awareness of the benefits of tourism. Establish measures to ensure regional development though tourism.
- ) Provide an impetus to improve and develop infrastructure and effectively deal with environmental issues.



The theme of Visit Nepal- 1998 was a sustainably habit through sustainable tourism and its marketing slogan was Visit Nepal-1998: World of its Own. The theme was highlighted to make tourism activities better for Nepal and to ensure the development of environmentally sound products, environment of service standard and distribution of the benefit of tourism to the people in cities and the remote regions.

The government declared the year as Visit Nepal-1998, on 15 April 1996. To materialize the declaration into action various programs and objectives were set. They were followed by some work strategies as given below:

- ) More airlines would be encouraged to make more international flights by 1998 and more airlines would be setup.
- ) There would be an atmosphere for travelling internationally.
- ) There would be major socio-political stability and approve tourism policies would continue their direction.
- ) Program and activities would be designed to make infrastructure to handle the expected number of visitors.

Visit Nepal-1998 was celebrated within these presuppositions. The strategies were equally important as ever and were effectively bought into force throughout the year. Visit Nepoal-1998 also aimed to develop Nepal as a final destination for tourist and to operate the tourism industry as a main source of employment generation.

The result of the visit Nepal-1998 was very positive and productive. The total tourist arrival thus in the rear was 463,684 which was 99 percent higher than the previous year. The tourist arrival by air and land were 398,008 and 65,678 respectively. The foreign currency exchange earned was US\$ 12,152,500 during the Year. Male and female tourists were 268,871 and 195, 813 respectively.

#### **2.2.10 Destination Nepal Campaign, 2002-2003**

The Tourism Council, represented by the government as well as the travel trade sector in Nepal, in its 5th meeting on 19 November 1899, decided to launch Destination

Nepal Campaign (DNC), 2002-2003 which was officially announced by The Government of Nepal on 9 January 2002. In a land locked country like Nepal, having abundant natural beauties. So tourism has always been underlined agenda of national economy and development.

A comprehensive action plan has been developed by the program committees on subject like the developing tourism infrastructure, creating awareness about tourism service, presentation for tourism purpose international promotional and marketing policy-driven changes including other necessities.

The activities held for one year as a part of Mt. Everest Golden Jubilee Celebration-2002-2003 began in June 2002 and ended in May 2003. Events lined up for the period included international rock climbing competition, golf tournament, cricket tournament, Everest marathon, white water rafting and elephant polo tournament etc. Nepal is said to the meeting point of famous Everest submitters from all over the world who were honored in the country.

The government of Nepal announced the Destination Nepal Campaign (DNC), 2002-2003 in January 2002 with a view of reinvigorating the tourism sector of Nepal for sustainable development. The objectives of DNC are:

- ) To enhance and re-establish the image of Nepal as a safe, reliable and attractive travel destination by effective international marketing and promotion.
- ) To create massive awareness about tourism and tourists related activities.
- ) To make necessary improvements in policies and structural levels to make tourism policies compatible to the current need for the sustainable, integrated and co-ordinate development of the tourism sector.

### **2.2.11 Nepal Tourism Year 2011**

Government of Nepal has shown greater concerns about the real value of tourism and its role in contributing to economic growth, poverty alleviation, equity and overall tourism development in the country.

In this connection, government of Nepal in consultation with Nepalese Tourism Industry, concerned organizations and experts decided to launch a national tourism campaign "*Nepal Tourism Year 2011*". This announcement reflects the government's anticipation to bring into at least one million international tourists in Nepal by the year 2011 and spread the benefits of tourism to the people at large. The cultural, geographical, ethnic and bio-diversities of the country allure international visitors to Nepal time and again which truly substantiates the spirit of Nepal tourism brand; '**Naturally Nepal, once is not enough !**

### **Objectives of the Tourism Year 2011**

- ) Establish Nepal as a premier holiday destination with a definite brand image,
- ) Improve and extend tourism related infrastructures in existing and new tourism site,
- ) Enhance the capacity of services renders,
- ) Build community capacity in the new areas to cater the need of the tourist, and
- ) Promote domestic tourism for sustainability of the industry.

### **Programmes**

To gain the objectives of the Tourism Year 2011, programme has focused on:

- ) Focusing marketing and promotion activities on regional and emerging markets
- ) Exploration of new tourism potential market segments,
- ) Highlighting the tourism brand: Naturally Nepal once is not enough!,
- ) Enhancement of air connectivity with the regional, emerging and potential markets,
- ) Lobbying with the government for sufficient budget allocation to improve and expand, tourism related activities infrastructures in existing and new tourism areas,
- ) Attract and encourage private sector for investment in tourism sector,
- ) Capacity building of human resource involved in tourism,
- ) Lobbying with the government for effective intervention in domestic tourism, development e.g. amendment in the Transportation Act,
- ) Promotion of domestic tourism by endorsing Leave Travel Concession (LTC) by the Government, and

- J Organize major sports/events in association with tourism associations and stakeholders, during the Nepal Tourism Year 2011.(At least one event in a month)

### **2.2.12 Mountaineering Expedition Regulation, 2059BS (200AD)**

This regulation controls the mountaineering activities guided by exercising the power section 56 of the Tourism Act 2035 BS (1978AD). The regulation consists of 37 rules.

In rule number 1, there is brief description about the title and commencement. The rule number 2 is related to the description of various terminologies used in the regulation. Permit to be taken for the mountaineering expedition, of the rule 3 and period and royalty for the expedition are described in sub rule 3 and period and royalty for the expedition are described in sub rule 3 and 4 of the rules. If any mountaineering expedition team wants to delay the program of change the mountain, the ministry may provide permit for delaying only upon to two years as described in rule 5. There are short terms and conditions which are to be fulfilled by mountaineering expedition team in rule 6. The team should use the communication facility like two satellite telephone, twelve like-talkies and two wireless according to rule 7. There are fixed criteria for liaison officer in rule 8. Rules are laid out for reporting the progress of the expedition through a government-deputed liaison officer and for the hiring of mountaineering support staff, including Sardar, high altitude porters, cooks and base camp staff which are briefed in Rule 9, 10, 11 and 12.

The functions and duties of headman and mountain guide are described in rules 13 and 15. Similarly qualification and standard are notified by government as well as facilities provided to headman, mountain guide, high altitude worker, base camp worker and local worker are presented in schedule-6 (some provisions relating to Mountain Tourism in Nepal, 2004: 47-48). For the safety and well being of the Nepalese staff attached to a mountaineering expedition there are provisions for personal health checks and insurance against accidents précised in Rule 19 and 20. Similarly there is a provision for emergency rescue arrangements through a representative agency in Kathmandu. The news of the expedition's progress should be reported first to the ministry of tourism as

explained in Rule 24. There is a strict provision for keeping the environment clean during the course of the expedition. About the garbage are explained in rules 26 and 27. In recognition of mountaineering as a distinct adventure activity, all climbing certificates and staff working at base camp or above are required to carry certificates from their related alpine clubs, is explained in Rule 33. The royalty rate is decided according to the height of peaks and NMA peaks. Spoiling the environment and creating pollution are liable to punishment. Similarly, climbing attempts without a permit and any action or behavior in defiance of the regulation are punishable.

### **2.2.13 Programmes for Mountain Tourism Development**

In Nepal, many programmes have been launched for the promotion of mountain tourism .among them following are the major programmes conducted in the past and currently in operation in Nepal:

### **2.2.14 Annapurna Conservation area Project (ACAP)**

In response to what was becoming a familiar pattern of demand driven tourism and the related environmental problems, the then King Mahendra Trust for Nature Conservation (KMTNC) was created in 1982. Its aim was to develop an innovative approach for preventing environmental degradation and loss of natural resources in the Annapurna area through the creation of a sustainable balance of the needs among local people, tourism management and nature conservation (Banskota and Sharma, 1995: 45). The KMTNC undertook a feasibility study of the area in 1986 the Annapurna Conservation Area Project, ACAP is the oldest conservation project in Nepal. ACAP is the largest conservation area in the country and it covers 7,629 sq. km. of land, which is the 5.8% of the total land area of the country and 28% of the total protected area. It's headquarter is located at Pokhara which has a number of following objectives:

- ) To conserve natural and cultural resources for all generations.
- ) To bring sustainable economic and social development. To develop tourism with minimum negative environmental impacts.

- ) To improve forest conditions through improved management and agro-forestry programmers
- ) To increase local awareness of environmental issues.
- ) To increase community participating in resource conservation and local development.
- ) To introduce appropriate and practical fuel saving technology.
- ) To monitor tourist number and ensure there is a basic infrastructure to accommodate them.

### **2.2.15 Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programmes (TRPAP)**

TRPAP is a programme of the government of Nepal working under the Ministry of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation (MoCTCA) since September 2001 with financial and technical assistance of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Department for International Development (DFID) Nepal and the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV-Nepal). The programme has been implemented in six districts of Nepal as a pilot programme. The programme opoeratint districts are Rupandehi, Chitwan, Rasuwa, Dolpa, Taplejung and Solukhumbu. The programme has three immediate objectives:

- ) Demonstrate sustainable tourism development models for policy feedback
- ) Develop institutional mechanisms for the sustenance of tourism development in Nepal; and
- ) Support the government to review and formulate sustainable tourism development policies and strategies and integrate them with wilder conservation objectives.

**Major Activities:** The following are the major activities of TRAP;

- ) Social mobilization
- ) Institutional development
- ) Human resources development
- ) Tourism infrastructure development
- ) Venture capital fund and
- ) Model development-new tourism products.

### **2.2.16 Makalu-Barun Conservation Project (MBCP)**

MBCP is a collaborative effort between the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC), Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation (MoFSC), The Government of Nepal and Woodlands Mountain Institute, non-governmental organization in Franklin, West Virginia USA. MBVCP is a new conservation project started in 1992. The MBCP management strategy takes a new approach at natural resource protection and cultural conservation. The project aims to improve local living standards with infrastructural, educational and income-generation activities. The Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation area management plans support the promotion of nature tourism as a timely and logical strategy which can:

- ) Provide increased international support for the Makalu-Barun National Park and Conservation Area.
- ) Discourage the development of more environmentally harmful tourist activities.
- ) Provide employment opportunities for local people, and
- ) Increase local appreciation of wildlife and unique biological areas (MBCP Task Force, 1990).

### **2.2.17 Kanchenjunga Conservation Area Project (KCAP)**

KCAP is being implemented in the four Village Development Committee of Lelep, Tapethok, Walangchung Gola and Yamphudin of Taplejung district. KCAP implements and promotes programs that strengthen the capacity of local women and men to manage their natural resources, while enhancing their socio-economic condition. Project activities are directed towards achieving the following objectives (KCA, tourist Guide book, 2002:51-52).

- ) Raising conservation awareness among local women, men and children.
- ) Establishing conservation area management infrastructure
- ) Institutionalizing community based organizations
- ) Reducing poverty
- ) Empowering women for representation in community based organizations and

## J Conservation of the Kanchenjunga mountain ecosystem

The project operates out of a headquarter office located in Lelepo Village and three sector offices in Ghunsa, Walangchung Golan d Yamphudin. KCAPO has also build strong partnerships with both government and non- government organizations at local, national and international levels.

### **2.2.18 Manaslu Conservation Area Project (MCAP)**

The Manaslu Conservation Area Project (MCAP) is important project of National Trust for Nature Conservation (NTNC). Manaslu region was declared 'conservation area' in December 1998, but NTNC was working there since January 1997 through Manaslu Ecotourism Development Project (MEDP) supported by ADB. MCAP is located on the northern part of Gorkha district. The cultural heritage of the region includes several large Buddhist monasteries. The monasteries of Gompas are located in the north-eastern part of the region (Bhatt, 2006:219). The activities of MCAPO include the Nature Conservation, Alternative energy Conservation Education and Extension Access Improvement, Community development, Tourism Developments, women in Conservation and Development, Agriculture Development, Health Support and Heritage Conservation.

### **2.2.19 Other Programmes for Mountain Tourism Development**

Besides above mentioned, programmes in Nepal, there are several other programmes conducted in different parts of the country which are contributing for the cause of sustainable mountain tourism Programmes in Langtang and ADB Eco-tourism TA Project are also contribution for the sustainable tourism development.

### **2.2.20 Conclusion**

In general, it is observed that tourism has received the attention from the government from the very beginning of plan period and the programmes are launched regularly, by the government and non-government agencies to promote tourism. Public sectors are also devoted for tourism development. However, all ventures and strategies are not analyzed to be effective. Due to the lack of sufficient resource allocation and lack of publicity in



international market, tourism sector in Nepal, has not been able to flourish and endorse as it should have been. Besides, different shortcomings associated with numerous aspects of tourism should be condensed. Appropriate and important appraise should be forwarded for the development of Nepalese tourism in international level.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Methods**

This study is exploratory and descriptive in nature. It attempted to explore the trend of climber, national income from the peaks. Both secondary and primary information is collected to fulfill the objective of the study. Primary information is collected from field survey from trekkers, guides, and handling agency. Questionnaire has been asked from trekkers, guides and handling agencies before and after the tour.

#### **3.2 Nature and Source of Data**

To make the study more effective and authentic, reliable data has been taken from field work. Both qualitative and quantitative data has been collected using both primary and secondary data source.

##### **3.2.1 Secondary Sources**

The secondary data has been obtained from various published and unpublished sourced such as through relevant literature, library study, newspaper, journals, research paper, internet and annual and other reports from various field. Secondary information has been collected from Nepal Mountaineering Association, Tourism Board, HMG/MoTCA, Annual Statistical Report, various maps and toposheets, internet and various libraries and from other document.

##### **3.2.2 Primary Sources**

Primary data has been collected in the field through interview and questionnaire from the trekkers, guides, and handling agency. Structured, semi structure and open ended questionnaire were used. The researcher personally met the trekkers and mountaineers in trekking agency. In one day, only two questionnaires were filed by trekkers and mountaineers who used to come in contact by chance in trekking agencies.

### **3.3 Data Collection Technique and Tools**

The researcher has been used both quantitative and qualitative methods to collect the required information; the researcher personally has been visited the trekkers, guides, and handling agencies and filled up the questionnaire, interview was taken with trekkers, guides and handling agency and NMA coordinator and focus group discussion has been done with them.

### **3.4 Analytical and Procedure**

Statistical tools and method has been used to analyze the quantitative data obtained from interviews, discussion and questionnaire. Qualitative information has been analyzed by ordering and ranking as well as using descriptive manners. Quantitative and cartographic techniques of analysis are used to analysis the data when and where necessary.

**CHAPTER FOUR**  
**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF MOUNTAINEERING**  
**TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL**

**4.1 Introduction**

It is mentioned that Jaya Prakash Malla the king of Kathmandu had opened doors to the Christians in the Valley. It was annexed by Prithivi Narayan Shah. Prithivi Narayan Shah was very cautious of the British, especially of their conspiratorial designs in India “where in the name of trade they would bring the Bible, and along with the Bible they would bring the Sword”. Immediately after having taken over the Valley Prithivi Narayan Shah on 10<sup>th</sup> February 1769 is said to have deported 62 Campuchinian Priests and their followers from Nepal who till then were kept under the protection of the king of Kathmandu. Prithivi Narayan Shah was highly protective and even seemed to be rather very cautious of the people entering Nepal from the South. In one of the instances he states “We should not let the merchants of India come to our country, they will leave the people poor”. To protect the country from any forms of intervention he resisted allowing not only the foreign traders but he even seemed to have discouraged the traders of Indian origin to enter into the country (Chand, 2000).

During the Rana Regime the visit of Junga Bahadur, tour to England and other European countries during 1850 had placed resounding and unforgettable impression of Nepal and the Nepalese upon the Western world. This to a certain extent is also be treated as a historical episode towards the promotion of tourism of Nepal. Then entry of foreign tourists was barred formerly but with the special permission of Rana ruler. During those days even Nepalese Nationals were required to obtain permits for visiting specified places within the country. It is said that the people visiting Kathmandu from the Terai region were made to retain permits, which most of the time would merely be valid for a periods of 7 days only. It was only during the ‘Shivaratri Mela’ that the Indians were allowed to come to Kathmandu without permits. However they would be permitted to stay for seven days only. It was said that everyone with an exception to the Prime minister was subjected to get their personal baggage checked while entering into

Kathmandu and/or going out of Kathmandu. It was therefore mandatory for everyone including the Nepalese to be screened before they came and left Kathmandu. The Rana rulers seemed to be very cautious that there would be no infiltration of any kind from across the border. Only those invited by the Rana ruler could visit Nepal in those days. The 'closed-door' policy of the Rana's stunned the development of Tourism at that time (Chand, 2000).

Although British influence overshadowed the foreign policy of Nepal during the Rana period, there seemed to have been efforts made by the Rana rulers to establish diplomatic relations with other Western nations as well. The inclination to establish diplomatic relations initially seemed to have been initiated particularly with those nations where the Rana rulers had visited especially France, Italy, Germany and of course Great Britain. Although the Diplomatic ties with China and Tibet were established since the period of Prithive Narayan Shah, this did not tend to have direct impact upon the flow of tourists to and from these countries to Nepal.

Until the treaty of 1923 which was signed by Chandra Shamsher with the British which instituted a provision to keep a representative in the form of Residents in Nepal. Similarly the first Nepali to hold the position of a Minister in London was Bahadur Shamsher. The consequent visits by the Italian Consul General in 1933 to invest Juddha Shamsher with the insignia followed by the French diplomatic mission in 1934, embassies from Belgium, Holland to express their gratitude for the support Nepal had extended during the Great War, and the arrival of the German embassy in 1937 were the efforts made by the Rana rulers to establish and maintain cordial relations especially with the European countries. Until the World War I the Gorkhas saw active service in Burma, Afghanistan, the North-East and North-West Frontiers of India, Malaya, Malta, Cyprus, Tibet and China. In 1919, as a result of the help Nepal had given during the war, Britain gave those country a million Ruppies annually. It is stated that over 200,000 soldiers were recruited in India by the British during the First World War, which comprised of 25% of the economically active segment of the male population the country at that time. However, the Gorkhas were recognized as most desirable soldiers and therefore were also largely responsible for establishing a special identity of Nepal to the Western world as

'land of the brave soldiers'. As a consequence, out of the 10 Victoria Crosses (VC) awarded during the Second: World War 7 brave Gorkha of the 'Eastern Front were awarded the VC. The advent of democracy of 1950 provided certain leverages for Nepal to open-out. The isolationist policy of the Ranas had not only debarred the country from the benefits of development but it had also the country from establishing diplomatic ties with different countries of the World. The last Rana Prime Minister Mohan shamsher seemed to have realized that we shall require much help and co-operation from abroad in our nation building project. Nepal then moved to expand diplomatic contacts beyond the British-Indian Tibetan relations in late 1946 when missions were sent to the United States and Nationalist China to test the response of those governments to Nepali overtures on diplomatic relations. The installation of Democracy of 1950 led to multifaceted changes in the country. The foreign relations expanded thereby leading to more potential trade and economic opportunities for Nepal. Nepal remained opened after the 104 years of isolated Rana rule. The road to development had started. these different events directly or indirectly played mile stone in establishing foundation for the promotion of tourism in Nepal.

#### **4.2. Mountaineering and Development**

As late as the mid-twentieth century, the refulgent peaks of Nepal were rare things only to be seen and sighed from afar and unclimbed (Gurung: 1968). There was a negotiation for a British expedition on Mount Everest in 1908, a French expedition on Makalu in 1934, and a Swiss expedition on Dhaulagiri in 1949 but these did not materialize as planned. Before this year, all the expeditions on Sagarmatha approached the mountain from Tibet side.

Exploration of Nepal Himalaya truly started in 1949. That year was concerned primarily as scientific exploration started by an American expedition led by Ripley visited Rekcha (West Nepal) and Chainpur (East Nepal). It became as a sign for the future influx of expeditions into unexplored Nepal. Swiss geologist Heim made an aerial flight over Dhaulagiri in the same year and proved a precursor to the future Swiss entanglement with that peak. In 1949, the Swiss entered north-east Nepal by way of

Darjeeling. The team explored Ramtang glacier, Kangbachen peak(25,925 feet) and the triangle of Drohmo(22,991ft), Jongsang peak(24,518ft), and Nupocho(23,058ft) on the Nepal-Tibet-Sikkim border. In the year, of summer, H.W. Tilman who had led the 1938 Everest expedition visited Nepal with a small British team of climbers and scientists. They explored Langtang and Gnesh Himal. In course of the exploration of west of Trisuli (Chili me Khola), they made an easy climb of Paldor (19,451 ft), the most Southerly point of Ganesh Himal.

The present chronology of mountaineering to Himalayan peaks of Nepal actually begins in the year 1950 when a major peak was first attempted and climbed through Nepal. A team of nine French climbers led by Maurice Herzog reached Tukuche, on 21 April 1950, and the vantage-point for climbing Dhaulagiri(26,795ft) or Annapurna(26,545ft) both of whose approaches were then unknown. The expedition was remarkable achievement that was the ascent of the first peak above 8,000 meters in history.

In 1950, the climbing rout of Sagarmatha opened from Nepal side. Oscar Houston's Anglo-American party arrived at Namche bazaar and made a brief reconnaissance of the Southern approaches to Mt. Everest. During the autumn in 1951, a young Swiss, George Frey, entered the South side of Kanchenjunga (28,208 ft), He visited Yalung glacier, Rantang La, Kabur and Goch La. He also succeeded in recording some close—up pictures of the dangerous Yalung flank of Kangchenjunga.

The most important year in the history of mountaineering was 1953, in which year more than a dozen expeditions visited Nepal Himalaya and above all Mt. Everest was finally climbed. Hillary and Tenzing tried to climb the highest peak and that climb commenced on a glorious morning and South summit was reached. They overcame laboriously and after toiling across huge cornices and step slopes, they finally set foot on the summit of Mt. Everest (8,848m). In the same year, Anddre Roch recommended dynamiting as a possible means of trickling the steep battlement of Dhaulagiri. The next year between February and May, Ralph Izzard's Yeti hanging expedition crossed ten high passes and climbed eight peaks of over 18000 feet including Kangsho Shar (19,950

ft), Pokhalde (19,050ft), Hkonfu South peak (20,013ft), and twice visited the highest Indian camp on Pumo Ki. The new Zealanders led by Edmund Hillary attacked the north saddle of Makalu. They bagged nineteen peaks of above 20,000 feet and mapped Barun, Iswa, Chho-yang, Hongu and Imja valleys. Makalu II (25,066ft) was climbed by Jean Franco, Lionel Terray Gyaltzen and Norbu. Chome Loenzo (25,640) in Hibet was also climbed by Terray and Couzy. J.O.M. Roberts and G. Lorimer made a round trip of the journey. James Roberts and Ang Nyima made a first ascent of close look at the possibility of Dhaulagiri II (25,429ft) and Dhaulagiri III (25,312ft). Jean Couzy and Lionel Terray on May 15, 1955 trode upon the summit of Makalu. 1956 was an unusually lean year beside Japanese success on Manaslu and one Swiss expedition on Sagarmatha and Lhotse.

#### **4.3 The Pre Democracy Period**

However, Ranas followed an isolationist policy except for a few special invitees and permissions being granted to a limited number of foreign nationals to enter the country. In this context, it may be mentioned that an American traveler, E. Alexander Powell whom intended to enter Nepal in the late 1920s described Nepal variously as, ‘a lonely land’, ‘the forbidden country’ and ‘the ave of the world’. His expressions emerged out of the response of the then Bengal Governor Sir Stanley Jackson against Powell’s desire to enter the kingdom. Jackson had expressed as-

*“It is one of the most difficult countries on the earth to enter. To all intends and purposes it is forbidden land. The Nepalese are suspicious of foreigners and very rarely grants then permission to cross the mountains into the great valley, though they occasionally permit those who are properly recommended to go into the outlying Tarai for tiger shooting”*(Gurung et. al, 2006: as cited in Sharma:2008).

Neo classical architecture as seen in the Singa Durbar of today and the Durbar High School and the Civil Act of 1910 B.S. are said to be the initiatives of J.B. Rana. It is said that the Ranas had only been successful in propagating the image of the country as



the land of the brave owing to the heroic efforts of the Nepalese Gurkha battalion in the First World War. Though diplomatic relations were aimed to be set up with France , Italy and Germany and the inevitable Great Britain nothing so useful for Tourism had taken place Nonetheless, the hunting organized by the Ranas in 1933 at Chitwan to greet several diplomats from England is said to have recognized the wildlife potential of Nepal. However the close door policy served as a blessing in disguise that introduced Nepal as a land a mystery and mysticism though unconditionally. This over temperament was due to change after the advent of democracy in 1950 that made Nepal officially opens its long closed doors to the outside world.

#### **4.4 The Post Democracy Period**

The last Rana Prime Minister Mohan Shamsher is said to have realized the drawbacks of the isolationist policy so far adopted and had initiated to develop diplomatic ties with the United States as early as 1949, the same year when Nepal has applied for a UN membership. In 1950 King Tribhuvan marked the Advent of democracy in Nepal and the same year held an awesome achievement in the world of mountaineering Expedition. It was the first ascent of any 8000m and over peak of the words. This ascent is said to have marked the beginning of mountain tourism in Nepal. In spite of deferent attempts Mt. Everest, the highest peak in the world was successfully climbed by Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary at 11.30 a.m.in May 27, 1953. These events introduced the awesome mountains of Nepal all over the world. However, the early arrivals were mostly of adventure seekers thus leaving the world Beyond Mountain.

***Institutional Development:*** Nepal though had a belated beginning made an enthusiastic head start. The Tribhuvan Rajpath was constructed from the 1950's to establish linkages between Kathmandu and the Indian border. She became a member of the UN in 1956 that made it expressively easy to advocate the tourism potentials of the country. An important figure said to have promoted Nepal in the United States was Mr. Rishikesh Shah the then UN Ambassador the U. S. who made it possible to grant gratis Visas to American travelers. Similarly the Royal Nepal Airlines Corporation (RNAC) was established in 1958 despite of early hiccups. On of the most important occasion that

is said to have relayed the ethics of Nepal was the coronation of King Mahendra in 1956 that had been thoroughly filmed with envois from 15 countries visiting Nepal. A chain of hotels and restaurants were being established during this decade and mentioned must be Boris Lisnivich and Yubaraj Shamsher J.B. Rana who had been phenomenal in establishing reputed hotels in the valley. In 1956 the Nepal Rastra Bank was established to deal with foreign currencies, the Nepal Tourism Board in 1957 and the Nepal Industrial Development Corporation in 1956, all with the express purpose of promoting the tourism potentials of the country. The first tourism plan (1956-1960), expressed, "It was necessary for the development of travel profession in a country blessed with rich tradition, history, religious harmony and rich natural wealth. Development of such activity would not only lead to popularizing Nepal, but it would be equally instrumental in bringing in foreign currency for the economic development of the country." Tourism began to be segregated with the Fourth Master Plan in 1972. With the assistance of Federal Republic of Germany, following one year survey, consultation and studies Tourism Master Plan was prepared and submitted in August 1972 and was recommended by the National Planning Commission for the fifth plan (1975-1980). The Master Plan intended to provide a basis for integrated growth in tourism sector. It provided complete insight into all relevant aspects of tourism in Nepal using available information and data. The Plan's main objectives reflexive to tourism were-

- ) Increase foreign exchange earnings through tourism and use tourism as an economic force in regional development.
- ) Generate employment, income opportunities and impulses in agriculture and industry. (Inventory of Nepal Himalayas:CDG,2000)

The plan proposed five different types of tourism namely sight Seeing Tourism, Trekking Tourism, Recreational Tourism, International Pilgrimage and Nepal Tourism Brand all collectively expressed as the "Nepal Style Tourism". As such the fourth five year plan is regarded as the Master Plan Not only pertinent to Tourism but for the socio-economic perspective of the country as a whole. When Nepal has hosted 6,179 tourists in 1962 it rose to 92,440 at 1975 and to 1,29,329 in 1977. By the end of 1980 several

instrumentalities, had been established. The Nepal Mountaineering Association in 1973, several foreigners like Lt. Col. Jimmy Roberts establishing the first ever trekking company 'Mountain Travel in 1965, Toni Hagen's original book, "Hagen's Nepal-A Kingdom in the Himalaya" in 1960, introduction of white water rafting by an American citizen Mike Yagger in 1976 (Upadhyaya,2005:20) and a few others made Nepal popular down the lime. In 1978 the Ministry of Tourism was established which became the Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation on 1992. The National Trust for Nature Conservation was also established in 1982 to protect the National Parks of the country. The initial 4 decades of tourism promotion on Nepal saw the establishments of the basic infrastructure and the legalization of the tourism sectors and activities related to it. The Kathmandu Valley got enlisted as the World Heritage Site in 1978. Several monuments within and outside the valley was recognized as Heritage Sites by the UNESCO and various research and studies were made to understand the feasibility of promoting outdoor sports. An important event was the opening of the SAARC summit in Kathmandu in 1987 that enhanced regional tourism. Also the TIA was established in 1953 operation 19 aircrafts reaching 38 domestic destinations and 9 foreign countries. Reports say that the convertible foreign currency increased from NRs.120.7 million in 1974/75 to NRs 518.7 million in 1979/80 and hotel rooms from 1663 in 1974/75 to 6,880 in 1980. As such Nepal was surely making a progress despite of the belated beginning.

#### **4.5 The Contemporary Period**

The National Peoples Movement of 1990 marks the contemporary phase of tourism promotion of Nepal. The new governments encouraged foreign investments as joint venture with Nepalese investors and later on were permitted 100% equity. As such reputed international Hotel's established their extensions in and outside the valley. As such the 90's have been recognized as a decade of band wagon of hotels in Nepal. Village tourism, Religious tourism and most importantly the private sectors were encouraged to take active part in tourism promotion. In 1995 the Tourism Council was formed under the direct control of the Prime Minister himself with some link bodies operation to The Nepal Tourism Board was established in 1998 with the same year being declared as the Visit Nepal Year that saw 4,63,689 arrivals followed by a still standing

record of 4,91,504 arrivals in 1999. The Ministry of Tourism became the apex Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation in 2002.

Today some 7,50,000 Nepalese are solely dependent upon tourism sector to earn a living (Image Nepal, 2007:11). It is estimated that at 2007 there operates 948 travel agencies, 740 trekking agencies and 92 rafting agencies. Likewise 7 Five Star hotels offering 2,701 beds, 7 Four Star Hotels offering 1,149 beds and only in Kathmandu a total of 499 hotels are said to operate offering 24,114 beds. Outside the valley 507 hotels offer 15,240 beds thus giving a national aggregate of 1,006 hotels with 39,384 beds (Grandon, 2007:431). Similarly Nepal has become a member of several international tourism organization such as the PATA, SATC, IUOTO, ASTA etc. similarly the grants and initiatives from the USAID, UNDP, WTO, ADB, SNV aid to promote the country's tourism as well as enhance the multiplier effects of the sector.

The new Millennium is said to have brought wired travelers and have created a web generation of tourists surfing the internet portals and websites for bookings and even payments. Nepal to has made available 12,70,000 tourism sites of the internet. It one types Nepal Tourism of Nepal Travel on the search engine a mini Nepal is on the offering just on the click of a button. "Naturally Nepal, Unleash Yourself- Once is not enough," forms the new tourism brand slogan for Nepal directed to propagate and promote the "world beyond mountains" along with the "trekkers paradise" to its best.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### MOUNTAINS AND MOUNTAINEERING IN NEPAL

#### 5.1 Introduction

Mountains are faulted or folded strata of elevated landforms with steepness of slope and enormous environmental contrasts within a short distance (Poudel, 2003). They are the most prominent features of the earth's relief and are elevation upon the surface of the earth, which rise above the general level. Objectively mountain should include local relief, steepness of slope, and notable amount of land in slope, in addition to elevation. There are several theories to explain about the origin of mountain. Convection current theory explains mountain develop where the rising currents from two opposite systems converge, resulting in great compressional forces causing folding and deformation of the surface (Holmes as cited in Price, 1981). Plate tectonic theory embodies the idea that earth is made of different plates which consist of portion of both continents and oceans and are moving in various direction. Where the plates are pulling apart new volcanic materials from depth fills the void created by their separation and where the plates come together, the continental rocks are often squeezed blocked into mountains (Price, 1981:32). Depending upon the rock structure and the building process mountains are of different forms. Some mountains are solitary peaks, some are joined together to form a line or series, called as a range and when the ranges are grouped together they form a chain. The Andes (7,200km), the Rockies (4,800km) and the Himalayas (2,400km) are the three largest mountain ranges of the world.

Nepal is a landlocked mountainous country whose identity is deeply enshrined in the mountains. Out of the total area (147181 km<sup>2</sup>) 45.7 percent is covered by high Himalayan Mountains and 26.3 percent by hill (LRMP 1986, cited in Nepal Parbat: 2009). Almost at the Central location of Hindu Kush Himalaya, Nepal Himalaya covers a third (850kms) of its length. It stretches in 28 different main ranges and their sub-systems. Of the main ranges only seven ranges have identical sub-ranges.

These Himalayan ranges house 1792 Himalaya peaks higher than 5500 meter. Out of the 23 Himalayan peaks of the globe exceeding 8000m, 17 are in Nepal Himalaya. Including “Sagarmatha” 10 peaks higher than 8000m asl. Are on each in Mansalu, Annapurna and Dhaulagiri. The number of peaks identified above 5500m is highest (310) in Mahalangur and lowest (3) in Lugula Himalaya Range. Janak Rolwaling, Damodar, Dhaulagiri and Gurans Himalaya Ranges have more than one hundred peaks above 5500 meter (CDG, 2000).

**Table 5.1. Highest Mountain Peaks of the World**

S.N.	Peak Name	Height	Longitude	Latitude	Country
1	Sagarmatha	8848m	80 <sup>0</sup> 55'36"	27 <sup>0</sup> 57'42"	Nepal Himalaya
2	K2(Mt.14)	8767m	76 <sup>0</sup> 32'00"	35 <sup>0</sup> 30'00"	Pakistan Gt.Karakoram
3	Kanchenjunga Main	8586m	88 <sup>0</sup> 09'00"	27 <sup>0</sup> 42'09"	Nepal Himalaya
4	Lhotse	8516m	86 <sup>0</sup> 56'11"	27 <sup>0</sup> 57'42"	Nepal Himalaya
5	Yalungkang	8505m	88 <sup>0</sup> 03'33"	27 <sup>0</sup> 42'09"	Nepal Himalaya
6	Mt. Makalu	8485m	87 <sup>0</sup> 05'17"	27 <sup>0</sup> 35'25"	Nepal Himalaya
7	KanchenjungaSouth	8476m	88 <sup>0</sup> 09'22"	27 <sup>0</sup> 41'32"	Nepal Himalaya
8	Un-named Peak	8473m	88 <sup>0</sup> 09'22"	27 <sup>0</sup> 41'52"	Nepal Himalaya
9	Lhotse Middle	8410m	86 <sup>0</sup> 56'38"	27 <sup>0</sup> 57'38"	Nepal Himalaya
10	Lhotse Shar	8382m	86 <sup>0</sup> 56'43"	27 <sup>0</sup> 57'29"	Nepal Himalaya
11	Un-named Peak	8275m	86 <sup>0</sup> 56'05"	27 <sup>0</sup> 57'56"	Nepal Himalaya
12	Cho Oyu	8201m	86 <sup>0</sup> 39'47"	28 <sup>0</sup> 05'38"	Nepal Himalaya
13	Dhaulagiri	8167m	83 <sup>0</sup> 29'43"	28 <sup>0</sup> 41'45"	Nepal Himalaya
14	Manasalu	8163m	84 <sup>0</sup> 33'24"	28 <sup>0</sup> 33'17"	Nepal Himalaya
15	Nanga Parbat	8125m	94 <sup>0</sup> 20'00"	26 <sup>0</sup> 00'00"	Pakistan Himalaya
16	Annapurna I	8091m	83 <sup>0</sup> 49'20"	28 <sup>0</sup> 35'45"	Nepal Himalaya
17	Un-named Peak	8106m	86 <sup>0</sup> 39'56"	28 <sup>0</sup> 05'56"	Nepal Himalaya
18	Gasherbrum I	8086m	-	-	Pakistan Gt.Karakoram
19	Broad Peak	8047m	-	-	Pakistan Gt.Karakoram
20	Gasherbrum II	8035m	-	-	Pakistan Gt.Karakoram
21	Un-named Peak	8040m	86 <sup>0</sup> 39'42"	28 <sup>0</sup> 05'14"	Nepal Himalaya
22	Un-named Peak	8025m	86 <sup>0</sup> 53'54"	27 <sup>0</sup> 50'46"	Nepal Himalaya
23	Shisha Pangma	8013m	-	-	China Himalaya

Souce: Nepal Parbat: 2009.

The profusion of (28) mountain ranges, their peaks and pinnacles spread at continuous chin from East to West of the country. Out of 1792 peaks higher than 5500m of Nepal Himalaya the highest concentration is in Eastern Development Region (39%)

followed by Western Development Region (26.6%), Mid-Western Development Region (20.2%), remained in Far Western and Central Development region.

Till date, 23 Himalayan peaks have been identified higher than 8000m above the sea level. All of these mountain peaks fall in the Himalayas. Of the 23 peaks 17 are housed at Nepal Himalaya followed by 5 in Pakistan Himalaya and 1 in Great Himalaya of China (Table 2.1). Including Sagarmatha, 9 peaks higher than 8000 meter are located at Mahalangur system and Khumbu sub-system of Nepal Himalaya.

## 5.2 Mountaineering Peaks of Nepal

The total number of mountain peaks, opened for mountaineering in Nepal is 326. They have been classified into four types. These are specified as follows:

### A. Peaks Managed by Nepal Mountaineering Association

The total numbers of mountain peak open for trekking groups operated by NMA are 33(Table 5.2). Among these 33 NMA peaks 9 or 27.27% are lower than 6000m in height followed by 19(57.58) between 6001 to 6500m and only 5 or 15.15 percent NMA peak are between 6501- 7000m. But there is no peak higher than 7000m.

**Table 5.2. Peaks Managed by Nepal Mountaineering Association**

S. N.	NMA Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	9	27.27
2	6001 – 6500m	19	57.58
3	6501 -7000m	5	15.15
4	>7000	0	00.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100</b>

[www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip](http://www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip) Retrieved on 2066/10/21 or About Nepal Himalaya, 2008.

Distribution of NMA peaks demonstrated in table 5.3 indicates that all the NMA peaks are located within three Development Region. The higher number (18 or 54.55 percent) of NMA peaks located in Eastern Development Region followed by Central Development Region. The number of peaks in this region is 8 and rest are in Western Development Region which contain 7 (21.21%) of NMA peaks.





**Table 5.3. NMA Peaks by Development Region**

S.N.	Development Region	Number of NMA Peak	Percent
1	Eastern Development Region	18	54.55
2	Central Development Region	8	24.24
3	Western Development Region	7	21.21
	<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>100</b>

[www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip](http://www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip)\bookfor2008.zip.Retrieved on 2066/10/21

**B. Peaks Opened for Nepalese of Nepalese-Foreign Joint Expeditions with at least 3 Nepalese Members;**

**Table 5.4. Peaks opened for Nepalese expedition or joint Nepalese and foreign expedition consisting at least three Nepalese members**

<b>1. Eastern Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	1	14.29
2	6001 – 6500m	-	-
3	6501 -7000m	3	42.86
4	>7000	3	42.86
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>2. Central Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	-	-
2	6001 – 6500m	3	37.5
3	6501 -7000m	4	50.0
4	>7000	1	12.5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>3. Western Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	-	-
2	6001 – 6500m	2	50.0
3	6501 -7000m	-	-
4	>7000	2	50.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>4. Mid-Western Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	-	-
2	6001 – 6500m	1	50.0
3	6501 -7000m	1	50.0
4	>7000	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>

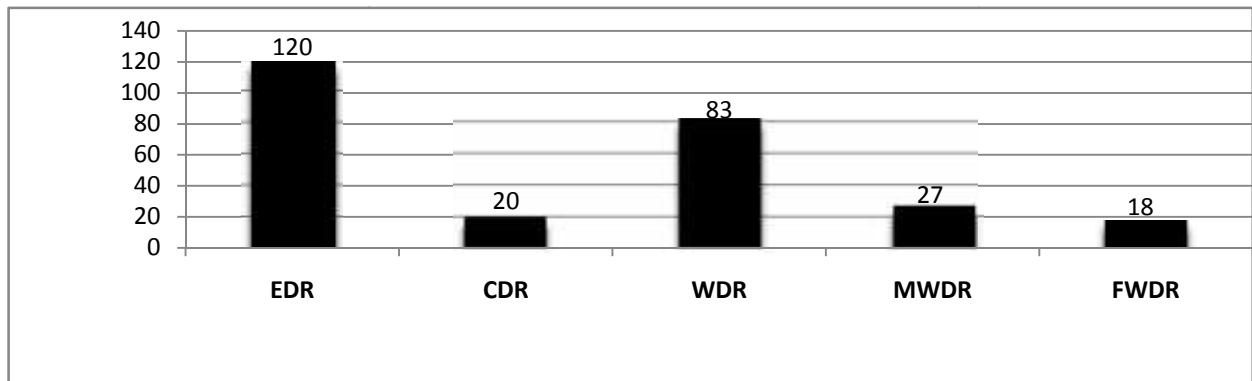
[www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip](http://www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip)\bookfor2008.zip.Retrieved on 2066/10/21

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> group, altogether 21 mountain peaks opened for Nepalese expedition or joint Nepalese and foreign expedition consisting at least three Nepalese members. Among them 7 peaks are in Eastern Development Region (table 5.4). One (14.29%) peaks is less than 6000m, three (42.86%) peaks are between 6501 to7000, and the same number are higher than 7000m. Eight peaks from this category are in Central Development Region where 3(37.5%) peaks fall in the height group of 6001-6500m, four in greater than 7000m. in the same way 4 peaks are in western Development Region. Among them 2(50%) are in between 6001 to 6500m and 2(50%) are greater than 7000m. the least number, only two are in the Mid-Western Development Region. One is in the height group of 6001-6500m and one in 6501-7000m.

### C. Peaks Opened for Foreign Expeditions

In the third category, there are 268 mountain peaks opened for foreign expeditions. From them 120 are located in Eastern Development Region (Figure 5.1). Nine or 7.5% peaks are less than 6000m, 31(25.83) peaks in the height group of 6001-6500m, 48(40%) in 6501-7000m and 32 (26.675) peaks are greater than 7000m. The number of peaks

**Figure 5.1. Peaks Opened for Foreign Expeditions by Development Region**



[www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip/bookfor2008.zip](http://www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip/bookfor2008.zip) Retrieved on 2066/10/21

located in Central Development Region are 20, from which 5 or 25 percent are in height group of 6001-6500, 10 or 50% are in 6501-7000m and five (25%) are greater than 7000m. Eighty three from this category are in Western Development Region. Six (7.32%) peaks are in the height group of less than 6000m, 23(27.71%) are in 6001 to 65000m and

**Table 5.5. Peaks opened for foreign expeditions by Height and Development Region**

<b>1. Eastern Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	9	7.50
2	6001 – 6500m	31	25.83
3	6501 -7000m	48	40.00
4	>7000	32	26.67
	<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>2. Central Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	-	-
2	6001 – 6500m	5	25
3	6501 -7000m	10	50
4	>7000	5	25
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>3. Western Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	6	7.23
2	6001 – 6500m	23	27.71
3	6501 -7000m	23	27.71
4	>7000	31	37.35
	<b>Total</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>4. Mid-Western Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	5	18.52
2	6001 – 6500m	13	48.15
3	6501 -7000m	9	33.33
4	>7000	-	00.00
	<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>5. Far-Western Development Region</b>			
S. N.	Peak by height group	No. of Peaks	Percent
1	< 6000m	3	16.67
2	6001 – 6500m	2	11.11
3	6501 -7000m	10	55.56
4	>7000	3	16.67
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100</b>

[www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip](http://www.tourism.gov.np/pdf/bookfor2008.zip)\bookfor2008.zip.Retrieved on 2066/10/21

the same number is in 6501 to 7000m. the peaks greater than 7000m are 31(37.35%) in number. In the same way Mid-Western Development Region contain 27 peaks of this category. According to their height, 5 are in less than 6000m, 13 peaks in 6001 to 6500m and 9 peaks are in 6501-7000m. The smaller numbers of peaks (18) from this category

are located in Far Western Development Region. Three of them are in the height group of less than 6000m, two or 11.11 percent in 6001-6500m, 10(55.56%) in 6501-7000m and 31(16.67%) are great than 7000m(Table ).

#### **D. Peaks Opened to Foreign Expeditions Only when they have been Climbed by Nepalese and Joint Expeditions**

The four mountain peaks have opened to foreign expeditions only when they have been climbed by Nepalese and joint expeditions. All the peaks in this group are higher than 6500m. *Bobaye* and *Jethi Bahurani* with the height of 6808 and 6850m are in Far western Development Region. Ganesh I with the height of 7429m is in Central Development Region and last one is in Western Development Region with its 7485m height.

### **5.3 Mountains Opened for Mountaineering**

Nepal remained special for tourism from the very beginning. Visits by pilgrims during the ancient times and the Indian Kings like Ashoka the great in 249 B.C. are very notable ancient visit (Sharma: 2008). Who is said to have married his daughter Charumati with a Nepalese King named Devpal and constructed the Charumati Vihar and 4 Buddhist stupas in the four corners of today's Patan and the Ashoka pillar at Lumbini too. Accounts also trace the matrimonial ties of the Tibetan Emperor Shrangchang Gampo with a Nepalese princess Bhrikuti during the Licchavi period, as well as Huen Tsang, a famous Chinese traveler is said to have visited Nepal and spoken of the Kailaskut Bhawan and Mangriha of the Licchavi dynasty (Aryal, 2005). However all this is said to be a typical royal policy of territorial consolidation. Yet it had placed Nepal as a pan pilgrimage destination from the very beginning. This was the typical scene of the kingdom before the unification in 1769. Nepal remained a hermit Kingdom till the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, a change was due to come soon in the foreign policy of the kingdom down the years.

Nepal opened its gate in 1949 at the first time for the foreign tourist. This year is regarded as the starting for mountaineering. Before this time, several attempts have been made to climb the Mt. Everest by different groups from north side i.e. from Tibet. So, at the beginning 20th century attempt had made to climb through Tibet. In the year 1949, Mr. Eric Shipton, for the first time in the history of trekking and mountaineering visited the Khumbu region. And understood the different environment of Mt. Everest region and the most extraordinary adventure in mountaineering.

Mountaineers have made identify of Nepal among the world. Nepal has earned name and fame by its lofty Himalayas and grandeur rather than other things in the globe. Tourism in Nepal started after the opening its border to the foreigners since 1951. Political revolution of 1950/51 marked as a new era for tourism in Nepal. Consequently, mountaineering on Himalayan peaks was permitted to foreigners. French climbers team of nine members succeeded for the first time to reach the Mt. Annapurna-I on 3 June 1950, at the high of more than eight thousand meters (8091m). The next and historical ascent by Tenzing Norgay Sherpa and Sir Edmund Hillary were able to keep the human feet on top of the highest peak, the Mt. Everest in the world on 29 May 1953. After these two successful historical ascents, there started a craze to conquer the different virgin peaks of the Nepal Himalayas among the climbers. In the decade of sixteen almost eight mountains above the height of eight thousand meter such as Cho-Oyu (8,201m), Mt. Kanchenjunga(8,598m), Manaslu(8,156m), Lhot'se (8,511m), Dhaulagiri(8,167) of Nepal Himalayas were climbed successfully by the mountaineers of different nation. This period was considered as the golden decade for history of mountaineering in Nepal. Second decade (1961-71) was highlighted by the participation of 105 expedition teams from different countries. The decade of mountaineering (1971-81) was highlighted as an unprecedented increase in foreign expeditions which reached 404 figures of mountaineering expeditions from deferent countries. In the forth decade (1981-90), 973 expeditions team participated for mountaineering. In this decade some of the peaks opened which were closed to previously.

In the fifth decade (1991-2000), total 1,171 expedition teams were permitted to scale the different peaks of Nepal from deferent countries. There were 112 expedition

teams in 2001, 134 in 2002, 15 in 2003, 140 in 2004, 128 expedition team in 2005. A total number of 375398 tourists visited Nepal during the Year 2005(Nepal Parbat: 2006).

Tourism reflects the interconnectedness of the place and places of both international and domestic destinations. It is perhaps a phenomenon which depends more than most not only on transport, service and trading networks but also on social, political and environmental relationships between the consumers and producers of the tourist experience (Hall and Page, 2002:2)

**Table 5.6. Group 'A' Peaks (New 15 Peaks) and Permitted Groups**

S.N.	Fiscal Year	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total
	Peak						
1	Cholatse	5	8	12	8	8	<b>41</b>
2	Machhermo	0	4	0	1	3	<b>8</b>
3	Kyazo-Ri	4	3	4	6	3	<b>20</b>
4	Phari Lapcha	0	2	0	0	1	<b>3</b>
5	Nirekha	2	3	4	7	7	<b>23</b>
6	Langsisa-Ri	3	2	5	0	4	<b>14</b>
7	Ombigaichen	2	1	2	2	0	<b>7</b>
8	Bokta	2	2	0	2	3	<b>9</b>
9	Chekigo	0	4	3	2	2	<b>11</b>
10	Lobuche West	1	1	1	1	0	<b>4</b>
11	Larkya	3	2	3	7	5	<b>20</b>
12	ABI	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
13	Yubra Himal	1	2	1	1	0	<b>5</b>
14	Chhukung Ri	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
15	Yala	9	19	17	15	20	<b>80</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>32</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>246</b>

Souce: Nepal Parbat: 2009.

Note: Mountain peaks opened in 2002 and permitted by NMA are grouped as “Group A Peaks”.

The role of tourism is very important for the least developed countries where poverty and climate change have hindered all round development. Tourism has been a cause and vector for climate change issues. For a country like Nepal tourism is an asset as

well as a key factor for foreign exchange. However, Nepal has not been able to keep pace with the global tourism market. Since 1994 to 2006(12 years) Nepal, had hosted a mere share of 0.398 % of the world tourist circulation averaging to 0.033% a share year. (WTO, 2006 and Nepal Tourism Statistics, 2006). The contribution from the tourism revenue to the GDP of the country is facing a decline since 2003/04. The tourism revenue 2003/04 was 18.14 million NRs contributing to 3.7 percent of the GDP which fell to 10.46 million NRs in 2005/06.

Government of Nepal has authorized NMA to issue permits for 18 peaks between 5,587 meter to 6,654 meter height in the Manang, Annapurna, Langtang and Khumbu area since 1978. Here are only five year data of trekking group's permitted from NMA in the period of 2002/03 to 2006/07 shown below:

**Table 5.7. Group 'B' Peaks and Permitted Groups**

S.N.	Fiscal Year						Total
	Peak	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	
1	Hiunchuli	1	2	2	1	1	7
2	Singuchuli	14	10	6	5	7	42
3	Mera	135	145	154	145	170	749
4	Kusum Kanguru	0	3	2	1	4	10
5	Kwangde	8	2	4	0	7	21
6	Chulu West	15	18	13	24	15	85
7	Chulu East	17	20	25	13	40	115
8	Island	277	308	333	374	400	1692
9	Pharchamo	46	58	44	38	50	236
10	Lobuje	42	56	65	52	61	276
11	Ramdung	13	10	8	5	8	44
12	Pisang	26	20	31	15	35	127
13	Tharpu Chuli	11	7	14	13	18	63
14	Khontma Tse	0	2	4	4	0	10
15	Ganjala Chuli	21	21	21	13	14	90
16	Pokhalde	21	21	22	18	25	107
17	Mardi Himal	4	2	3	4	5	18
18	Paldor	5	4	0	2	4	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>709</b>	<b>751</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>3707</b>

Souce: Nepal Parbat: 2009.







The table 5.6 depicts the clear picture of trekkers in Nepal since 2002/03 to 2006/07. Being the most trekking peak among group 'A' (the new opened) peaks, Yala hold the maximum trekkers followed by Cholatse as the second. Nirekha peak stand as third, Kyazo-Ri and Larkya stand as forth position. Whereas the remains peaks becoming steadily popular. From the table 5.2, many groups are concentrated in the Yala peak but no group of trekker is for Chhukung Ri peak. There is only one group in five year for ABI peak. Phari Lapcha, Lobuche west and Yubra peaks hold the minimum groups of trekker. As the whole, it is clear that the number of groups has been increasing in average. The number of groups has been increasing from 2004/05 to 2006/07.

In 2002/3 to 2006/07 Island become the prime destination (Table 5.7) followed by Mera. Most interesting statistic observed during this period was that Island and Mera contain 2441 from total 3707 groups. Both become the prime trekking generation and receiving market of the NMA peaks. The number of group has been increasing year by Year except 20005/06. It may be the cause of security and Emergency surgery in Nepal. Only 7 groups in these five years were to Hiuchuli. Kusum Kanguru and Khontama Tse have few groups in this five year. Table showed the decline number in Hiunchuli, Singuchuli, Ramdung and Ganjala Chuli whereas fluctuating in Kusum Kangauru, Kwangde, Chulu West, Pharchamo, Lobuje, Pisang, Khontma Tse, Pokhalde and Paldor. Trekking group has been increasing in Mera, Chulu East, Tharpu Chuli, Mardi Himal and Island. Island has been seen as the centre of attraction followed by Mera peak.

#### **5.4 Climber of NMA Peaks**

Nepal initiated granting permission to the mountain climbers for the first time in 1949. Since, then, there has been a substantial increase in the number of mountaineers and trekkers. Nepal has emerged as one of the leading and most challenging country for adventure tourism in the world. Except for Shisha Pangma, which was ascended in 1964, all the other over-8000 meter high peaks were successfully climbed in the 1950s. According to an estimate, there are more than 1300 mountain peaks above 6000 meters in Nepal and out of fourteen above the 8000 meter high peaks of the world, eight are in Nepal. We have the experience of 55 years of mountaineering. Including 33 trekking

peaks under the management of Nepal Mountaineering Association, 326 peaks have been opened for climbing in Nepal. Permissions are given for climbing in three seasons: pre-monsoon, post-monsoon and winter seasons (Nepal Parbat: 2006).

Among the NMA Group 'A' Peaks (New 15) peaks, there is heavy concentration of trekking in Yala peak. The following table shows the clear figure of trekkers:

**Table 5.8. Climber on Group 'A' Peaks (New 15 Peaks) by Year**

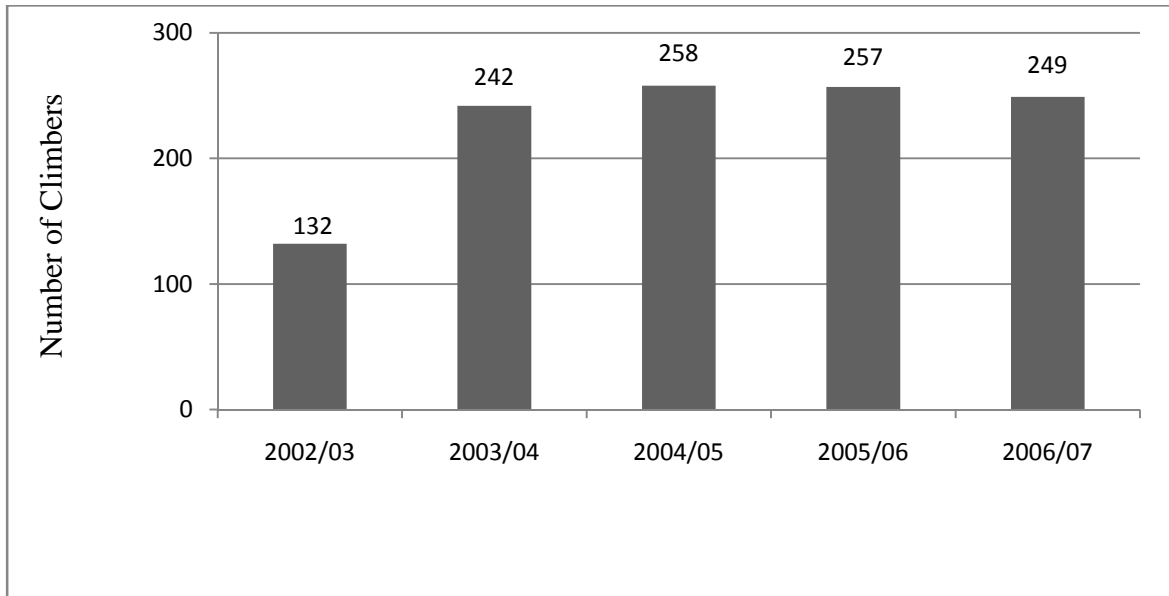
S.N.	Climbers	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total
1	Cholatse	9	30	47	34	31	<b>151</b>
2	Machhermo	0	13	0	2	10	<b>25</b>
3	Kyazo-Ri	14	23	11	17	9	<b>74</b>
4	Phari Lapcha	0	6	0	0	2	<b>8</b>
5	Nirekha	4	9	25	41	47	<b>126</b>
6	Langsisa-Ri	5	8	22	0	22	<b>57</b>
7	Ombigaichen	17	3	16	8	0	<b>44</b>
8	Bokta	10	15	0	10	9	<b>44</b>
9	Chekigo	0	24	20	14	5	<b>63</b>
10	Lobuche West	4	12	7	1	0	<b>24</b>
11	Larkya	19	13	15	44	20	<b>111</b>
12	ABI	0	0	0	2	0	<b>2</b>
13	Yubra Himal	1	4	1	1	0	<b>7</b>
14	Chhukung Ri	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
15	Yala	49	82	94	83	94	<b>402</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>1138</b>

Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

Note: "Group A" means the newly opened peaks (from 2002) and "Group B" is from 1973.

Yala peak is the most popular trekking peak among group 'A' NMA peak. Around 37% of the total trekkers visiting group 'A' peak come for yala. Just for example in five years out of 1138 total climbers visiting group 'A' 402 trekked Yala peak. Out of it 151 climbed Cholatse, 126 climbed Nirekha, 111 climbed Larkya where no climber for Chhukung Ri and other less popular peak are ABI, Yubra Himal and Phari Lapcha. Only 2,7 & 8 climber respectively for these peaks. Rest peaks have normal climber in 5 year which was 24 to 74 climbers. The table 5.8 or figure 5.1 shows the clear figure of Climbers.

**Figure 5.2. Climber on Group 'A' Peaks (New 15 Peaks) by Year**



Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

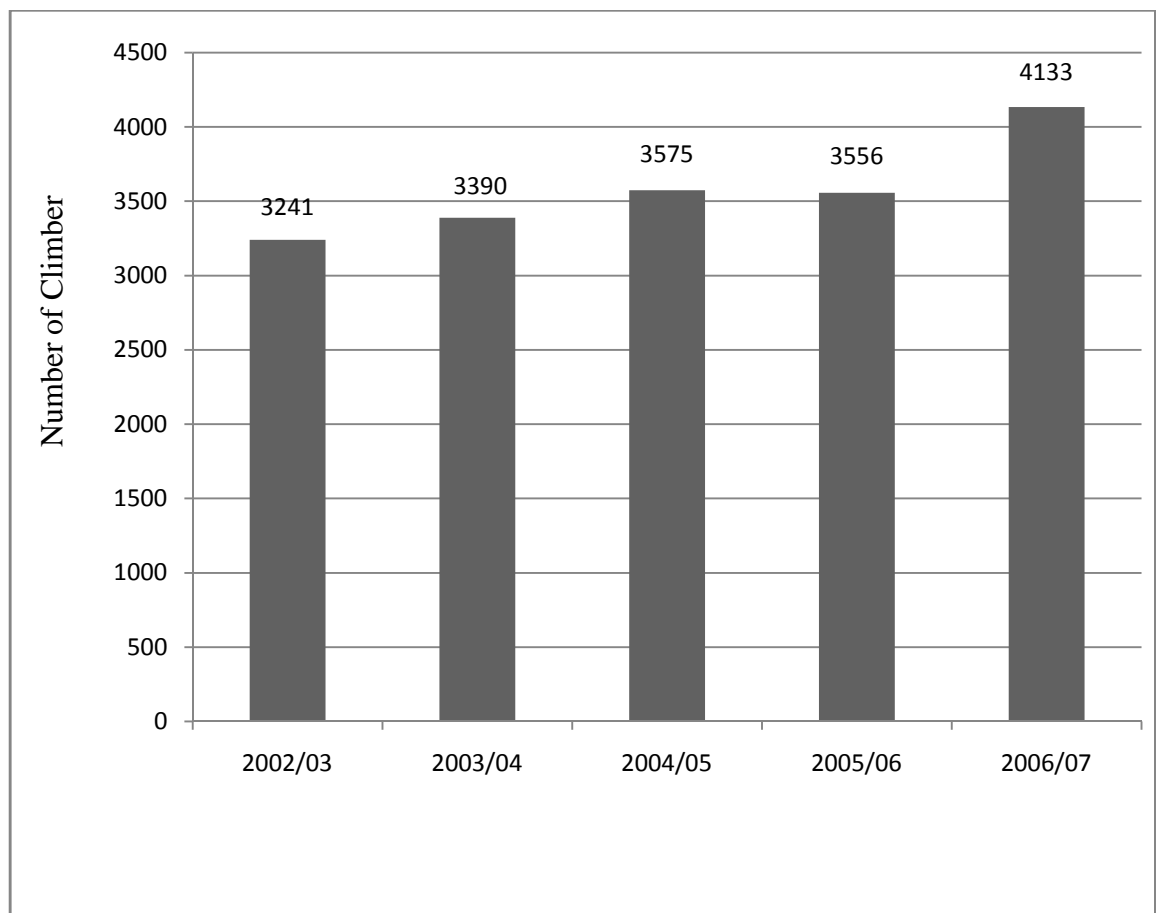
**Table 5.9. Climber on Group 'B' Peaks (18 Peaks) by Year**

S.N.	Peak	Fiscal year					Total
		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	
1	Hiunchuli	4	5	4	1	4	<b>18</b>
2	Singuchuli	54	41	11	17	13	<b>136</b>
3	Mera	727	790	771	777	887	<b>3952</b>
4	Kusum Kanguru	0	11	4	2	10	<b>27</b>
5	Kwangde	30	6	15	0	25	<b>76</b>
6	Chulu West	46	53	46	91	49	<b>285</b>
7	Chulu East	71	77	125	43	184	<b>500</b>
8	Island	1325	1491	1579	1885	2006	<b>8286</b>
9	Pharchamo	243	269	207	158	233	<b>1110</b>
10	Lobuje	240	282	334	276	279	<b>1411</b>
11	Ramdung	67	48	41	30	42	<b>228</b>
12	Pisang	88	57	118	51	129	<b>443</b>
13	Tharpu Chuli	79	24	63	43	43	<b>252</b>
14	Khontma Tse	0	6	10	6	0	<b>22</b>
15	Ganjala Chuli	84	70	88	39	54	<b>335</b>
16	Pokhalde	146	133	152	122	153	<b>706</b>
17	Mardi Himal	20	6	7	13	15	<b>61</b>
18	Paldor	17	21	0	2	7	<b>47</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3241</b>	<b>3390</b>	<b>3575</b>	<b>3556</b>	<b>4133</b>	<b>17895</b>

Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

The table 5.9 or figure 5.2 shows number of climber by group 'B' Peaks. Almost half of the climbers from all total are concentrated to Island peak. In this period (2002-2007), 8286 climbers from total 17895 are only to Island peak. Mera comes in second number on which 3952 person climbed in this five year. Lobuje and Pharchamo comes in third and fourth position respectively. Only 18 persons climbed on Hiunchli which was the least numbers of climber on group 'B' peaks. Less number of climber were in Khontma Tse, Kusum Kanguru, Paldor, Mardi Himal and Kwagde. Only 4 peaks have more than thousand climbers in these five year and rest 14 peaks have less than thousand climbers. Year wise study showed that the number of climber was increasing except 2005/ 06 (Table 5.9).

**Figure 5.3. Climber on Group 'B' Peaks (18 Peaks) by Year**



Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

## 5.5 Royalty

The leader of the expedition team is required to pay the full amount of the climbing permit fee (royalty) for the specified Himalayan Peak, within 2 months of the date of permission. In case of the failure of the payment of royalty within the time limit, such permission may be cancelled. The Royalty must be paid directly in the favors of the MoTCA, Mountaineering Section, either by bank draft or bank transfer to Nepal Rastra Bank. The amount must be paid in convertible foreign currency. The royalty being paid by a team shall not be transferred for another mountaineering expedition team.

The fee structure for the NMA Group A and Group B peaks are different. The peaks falling under Group A are those 15 peaks assigned to the NMA since 2002 while the Group B peaks are those 18 peaks assigned to the NMA in 1978.1 the fee structure for the Group A (Table 21) and Group B (Table ) peaks are as bellows:

**Table 5.10. Fee Structure for NMA Peaks**

Group Size for Group A Peaks	Fee (US \$)	Additional Fee (US \$)
1 to 7	500	100 per Additional person up to 12

Source: Nepal parbat: 2009:96.

**Table 5.11. Fee Structure for NMA Peaks**

Group Size for Group B Peaks	Fee (US \$)	Additional Fee (US \$)
1 to 4	350	Only
5 to 8	350	40 per person
9 to12	510	25 per person

Source: Nepal Parbat: 2009:96.

Note: Maximum number of member in a team is 12.

For extending the permission, an additional 25% charge of the total amount of the initial fee is to be made for each extra week. The Leader or a climbing member of the team must collect the permit in person from the NMA. In the event of cancellation of the permission by the NMA or the failure of the expedition team to materialize due to some other season, the fees already paid will not be refunded.

The royalty structure had had undergone repeated revisions and fluctuations. However, a new recommendation has been formulated by the Peak Royalty Revision Committee, submitting the report to Mr. Prithvi Subba Gurung (Minister of the MoTCA) in January 16, 2008.

### **5.5.1 Changing Structure of Royalty in Nepal**

Prior to 1991-1992, the royalty for Mount Everest was US\$ 10,000 for a nine member expedition team and US\$ 1,200 for each additional member. For other 8,000 meter peaks, it was US\$ 8,000 for nine members and US\$ 800 for each additional member. For other peaks, the royalties ranged between US\$ 1,000 and US\$ 3,000. The royalties for all the routes to Mt. Everest was raised to US\$ 5,000 for a five member team and US\$ 10,000 for each additional member in 1993-1994. The royalties for other 8,000 meter peaks and other peaks remained the same but the expedition members were revised and team members of seven were set as the norm for mountaineering expedition. There was a slight increment of royalties for 8,000 meter peaks from US\$ 8,000 to US\$ 10,000. The royalty for each additional member was also raised from US\$ 8,00 to US\$ 1,500. In the case of other peaks from 6,501 meters to less than 8,000 meters, there has been a marginal increase and it ranges from US\$ 1,000 to US\$ 4,000 for a seven member expedition team. Since 1995-1996, the royalties have remained the same for all the mountain peaks, but in the case of the south-east route to Mt. Everest, the royalty was specified categorically for one member to seven member' expedition in 2002-2003( Amatya, 2006:64).

### **5.5.2 Current Structure of Mountaineering Royalty**

There has been a new regulation effective from 1996 spring regarding the royalty for sagarmatha mentioned in sub rule (1) of rule (5) with a provision for the change of expedition route with additional royalty. In the regulation there is also a provision that Nepalese expedition team or Nepalese side of joint expedition can pay in Nepalese currency. The Government may exempt fully or partially the royalty to any Nepalese mountaineering team which has included Nepalese citizen as a team member of the

expedition. Some of the regulations set by the Ministry pertaining to the royalty and the size of the expedition team is as follows.

1. More than one team may be permitted to climb sagarmatha by a separate route each in season.
2. A royalty of USS 70, 000 has been fixed for Sagarmatha for a team consisting of seven members. The team may include 5 more members provided it pays extra USS 10,000 for each additional member. The royalty includes the trekking fee of the team members. The team members will be granted a 3 month visa. Additional, US 20,000 will have to be paid by the team willing to scale Sagarmatha by the normal south-east route.
3. In all regions including Khumbu, an expedition can have up to 7 members for the minimum and 5 more members for the addition route.
4. The team already permitted to scale Sagarmatha will have to pay USS 10, 000 if it intends to change the ascent route. It will have to pay an additional USS 20,000 if it intends to change the ascent route to the normal south East Ridge route.
5. For other peaks other than Sagarmatha, the team will have to pay an additional 25% of the royalty in USS to change the ascent route.
6. Expedition team must complete all necessary administrative formalities and procedures in order to send back the garbage of the expedition team to their respective countries, after the completion of the expedition. The MoCTCA will take necessary monetary deposits from Nepal. ([http://nepalmountainnews.com/royalty\\_fees.php](http://nepalmountainnews.com/royalty_fees.php))>11<sup>th</sup> April 8:20)>

The royalty for the mountaineering expedition form general route (Southeast rout) for the mountaineering expedition team shall be as follows.



### 5.5.3 Royalty for the Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest)

1. The royalty for the mountaineering expedition team not exceeding seven in number from the route other than the general route (Southeast route) shall be fifty thousand U.S. dollar.
2. The royalty for the mountaineering expedition from general route (Southeast route) for the mountaineering expedition team shall be as follows:

**Table 5.12. Royalty Structure for Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest)**

Member of the Mountaineering Expedition Team	Royalty (U.S. Dollars)
One member	25,000
Two member	40,000
Three member	48,000
Four member	56,000
Five member	60,000
Six member	66,000
seven member	70,000

Source: Nepal Parbat, 2006:63, MoTCA, 2004.

3. Other not more than five members may be added in the mountaineering expedition team beyond the number as it mentioned in clauses (1) and (2).

### 5.5.4 Royalty for other Mountains

**Table 5.13. Royalty for the other Mountains besides Sagarmatha (Mt. Everest).**

Name of the Mountain	Royalty, up to Seven Members (US\$)	Royalty, each Additional Member (US\$)
Above 8000m	10,000	1,500
From 7,501 to 8,000m	4,000	500
From, 7,001 to 7,500m	3,000,	400
From 6,501 to 7000m	2,000	300
Less than 6,501m	1,000	200

Source: Nepal Parbat, 2006:63, MoTCA, 2004.

Note: if there is any change in the royalty amount before receiving the briefing from the Ministry even after one has already paid the royalty under this regulation, the mountaineering expedition team shall pay the changed amount of the royalty.

**Table 5.14. Royalty for Mountaineering Expeditions in Nepal**

Everest South-east route	U.S.\$ 70,000 for seven members
Other routes	U.S.\$ 50,00 for seven members U.S.\$ 10,000 for each additional member
Other 8,000 meters peaks	U.S.\$ 10,000 for seven members U.S.\$ 1,500 for each additional member
Peaks 7,501-7,999 meters	U.S.\$ 4,000 for seven members U.S.\$ 500 for each additional member
Peaks 7,001-7,500 meters	U.S.\$ 30,000 for seven members U.S.\$ 400 for each additional member
Peaks 6,501- 7,000 meters	U.S.\$ 2,000 for seven members U.S.\$ 300 for each additional member
Less than 6,500 meters	U.S.\$ 1,000 for seven members U.S.\$ 200 for each additional member

Source: Nepal Parbat, 2006:63, MoTCA, 2004.

In January 16, 2008 the peak Royalty Revision committee submitted a recommendation letter to the Ministry of culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation regarding the formulation of peak royalty per season. The new recommendation including 50% rebate in autumn and 75% less in other seasons apart from spring. Also is recommended a break down of royalty considering the number of team members of each expedition. Similarly as per it any expedition team can have up to 15 members. The committee also suggested that the royalty for Amadablam should be maintained the same for spring as well as for autumn. It has also been recommended that the mountains located on the mid-Western and far-western regions be opened to climb for free for period of 5 years. Similarly, was suggested that an ice-fall ladder be installed at Mt. Cho-oyu, so as to encourage assaults from Nepal. Apart from this, security measures (tourist police) are set up in Namche Bazaar and other prominent destinations to safeguard the treading tourist's local tax collectors and thefts. Also, it recommended that a certain percentage of peak royalty be given to the particular region where the peak is located so that an environmental fund would be initiated. To this Prithvi Gurung, Minister of the MoCTCA, assured that, "it would help to boost up mountaineering in Nepal and would be a part of mountaineering history" (NTTR, 2008:5).

### **5.5.5 Royalty from NMA Trekking Peaks**

Tourism is regarded as the world's largest industry and a fore earner of global economy. World tourist arrivals exceeded the 800 million mark in 2005 and reached 842 million in 2006. The receipts from international tourists amounted to US\$445 billion in 1998 with international tourist arrivals reaching to 625 million the same year. Between 1989 and 1998 international tourism receipts grew at a rate of +8.1 percent annually (Pradhan,1999:1). According to the latest UNWTO world Tourism Barometer international tourism arrivals expanded by 6 percent in 2007 reaching to 898 million arrivals (UNWTO, 2008:40). World Gross Domestic Product has experienced its largest period of sustainable growth for 25 years with figures around or close to 5 percent since 2004. WTTC estimates that at a global level the travel and tourism industry will constitute 11 percent of the global GDP) and support for at least 2690 million jobs of total employments or 1 in every 11.2 jobs. (WTTC, 2001). It is estimated that international tourist arrivals will follow an annual growth rate of 4.1% through 2020, the aftermath of which is thought to be a bit effecting foreign travel by Americas or a stronger Euro stimulating European International travel (UNWTO, 2007:40).

Tourism can be treated as an economic item (Banstola, Kamal and Sharma, 1998). It gives satisfaction to the consumer. This means that, the tourism, some form of monetary as a luxury item as its consumption requires a reasonable amount of income to pay for travel, accommodation, food and other services. Hence, tourism depends on the prices of different services and the tourist's income among other things. As a result, there are more tourists from higher income countries than from lower income countries.

As the Ocean is filled with drops of water, National income is also contributed through the small amount of income. It is seemed that the last few decades, tourism has been substantially contributing to boost national economy especially through generating foreign exchange and providing various types of job opportunities. Hence, trekking has played a significant role in the national economy.

Trekking, being an important part of tourism, has also a remarkable share in making the national economy more prosperous. It is contributing in a remarkable volume to earn foreign currency to the national treasury. It has also helped to keep balance of payment in country's favor. Moreover, expenditure made by trekkers during their visit to Nepal for different purposes has helped to increase economic activities in the country. Thus, trekking can be regarded as an important part of the national economy.

At present, fees collected from issuing peak permits for 33 peaks to foreign climbing teams are the main financial resource of NMA (Nepal Parbat, 2006). Beside this, NMA draws its financial resource from membership fees, donations, assistance and gifts received in cash and kind from the Government of Nepal, national and international individuals and organization.

Government of Nepal has authorized NMA to issue permits for 18 peaks between 5,587 meter to 6,654 meter in the Manang, Annapurna, Langtang and Khumbu area since 1978. Meera Peak (6, 654,) is the tallest among these 18 peaks while Mardi Himal (5,587m.) is the smallest in altitude. These 18 peaks are also known as the NMA Climbing Peaks (Nepal Parbat, 2006).

Royalty for mountaineering trekkers to thirty three peaks is received by Nepal Mountaineering Association. The amount of royalty received from trekkers by Association is increasing gradually since the beginning.

For the last few decades tourism has been substantially contributing to boost national economy especially through generating foreign exchange and providing various types of job opportunities. Hence, trekking has played a significant role in the national economy.

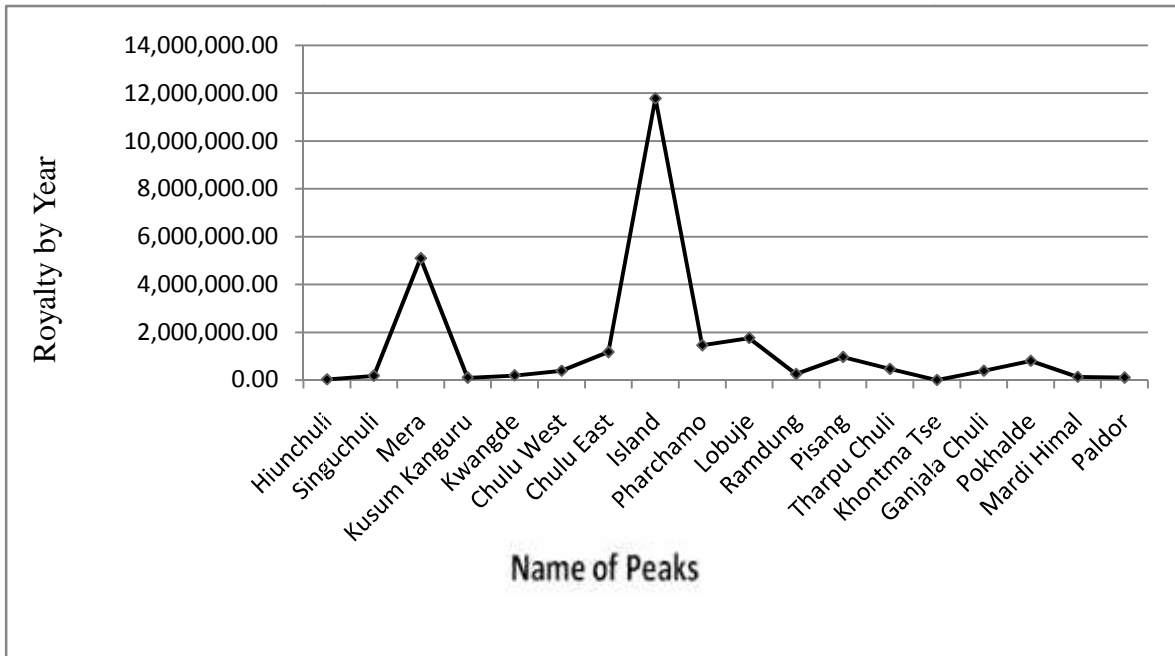
**Table 5.15. Royalty Earned from the Mountaineering Permit of “Group B” Peaks of NMA**

S.N.	Year		2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/6	2006/07	Total
	Peak							
1	Hiunchuli		27,230.00	51,877.00	51,649.50	25,077.50	23,940.00	<b>179,774.00</b>
2	Singuchuli		426,049.95	288,049.30	153,681.50	134,335.50	177,229.00	<b>1,179,345.25</b>
3	Mera		4,456,795.80	4,544,414.35	4,669,771.55	4,489,652.45	5,096,506.85	<b>23,257,141.00</b>
4	Kusum Kanguru		-	85,255.30	51,198.00	24,990.00	100,359.00	<b>261,802.30</b>
5	Kwangde		233,489.00	51,961.00	108,361.20	-	191,853.70	<b>585,664.90</b>
6	Chulu West		433,737.30	477,469.70	353,204.80	654,525.70	383,642.00	<b>2,302,579.50</b>
7	Chulu East		533,499.10	574,116.45	771,415.60	352,332.50	1,171,597.00	<b>3,402,960.65</b>
8	Island		8,830,521.95	9,260,239.20	10,029,090.40	11,361,181.90	11,791,493.55	<b>51,272,527.00</b>
9	Pharchamo		1,520,327.55	1,735,464.00	1,312,872.85	1,078,428.00	1,454,133.90	<b>7,101,226.30</b>
10	Lobuje		1,415,204.55	1,695,584.70	1,994,352.20	1,596,042.50	1,759,978.17	<b>8,461,162.12</b>
11	Ramdung		427,957.50	300,331.75	249,827.20	183,723.50	248,745.50	<b>1,410,585.45</b>
12	Pisang		782,025.20	532,202.20	838,633.25	416,350.50	960,436.25	<b>3,529,647.40</b>
13	Tharpu Chuli		407,648.35	187,100.30	417,737.75	349,565.05	463,637.80	<b>1,825,689.25</b>
14	Khontma Tse		-	51,702.00	103,813.50	102,186.00	-	<b>257,701.50</b>
15	Ganjala Chuli		636,526.90	582,938.70	607,336.85	370,917.75	384,604.05	<b>2,582,324.25</b>
16	Pokhalde		753,511.90	678,528.70	749,726.80	609,094.15	800,052.25	<b>3,590,913.80</b>
17	Mardi Himal		124,800.00	51,705.50	76,863.50	109,303.00	128,877.50	<b>491,549.50</b>
18	Paldor		142,232.50	123,777.80	-	50,057.00	100,796.50	<b>416,863.80</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>21,151,557.55</b>	<b>21,272,717.95</b>	<b>22,539,536.45</b>	<b>21,907,763.00</b>	<b>25,237,883.02</b>	<b>112,109,457.97</b>

Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

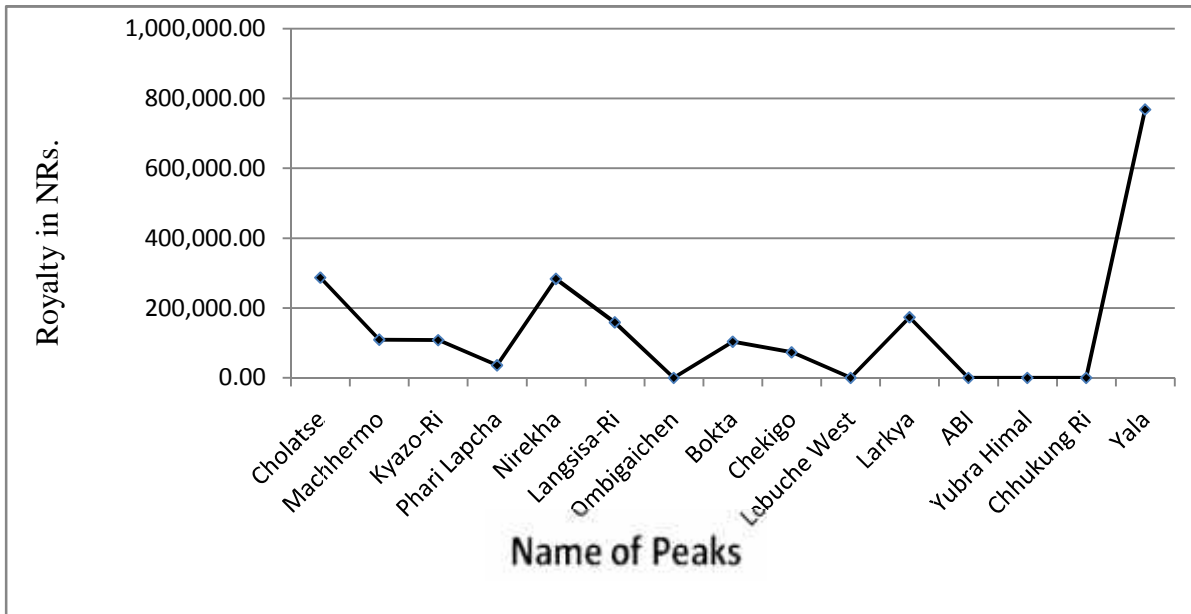
The total royalty collected from trekking fees by Nepal Mountaineering Association has increased significantly from Rs. 21,151,557.55 in 2002/ 03 to Rs. 25,237,883.02 in 2006/07. However the royalty had decreased in the year 2005/06 compared to its previous year (Table 5.7). Among the group ‘B’ NMA peaks, the highest amount of royalty was collected by Island peak followed by Mera peak, Lobuje, Pisang and Chulu East. The least amount of royalty is collected by Hiunchuli peak followed by Khontma Tse and Kusum Kanguru.

**Figure 5.4. Royalty Earned from the Mountaineering Permit of Group B Peaks of NMA in the Year 2006/07**



Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

**Figure 5.5 Presents Amount of the Income Earned Through Trekking of NMA Group 'A' Peaks (New 15 Peaks) in the Year 2006/07**



Source: NMA, Official Record: 2008.

### 5.5.7 Royalty from Group A Peaks

NMA has also been given the rights, according to Government of Nepal's decision, to issue mountaineering permits to 15 new peaks to climbers and mountaineers since 2002, effective from Aswin 2, 2059 Peaks in five years:

**Table 5.16. Presents Amount of the Income Earned Through Trekking of NMA Group 'A' Peaks (New 15 Peaks).**

S.N.	Year	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total
	Peak						
1	Cholatse	194,525.00	294,290.00	464,835.00	287,750.00	286,740.00	<b>1,528,140.00</b>
2	Machhermo	-	146,310.00	-	36,400.00	109,450.00	<b>292,160.00</b>
3	Kyazo-Ri	155,750.00	140,765.00	146,680.00	215,995.00	108,085.00	<b>767,275.00</b>
4	Phari Lapcha	-	73,490.00	-	-	35,830.00	<b>109,320.00</b>
5	Nirekha	77,635.00	80,189.00	184,185.00	289,810.00	283,359.00	<b>915,178.00</b>
6	Langsisa-Ri	116,630.00	73,740.00	183,835.00	-	159,000.00	<b>533,205.00</b>
7	Ombigaichen	116,750.00	36,995.00	86,988.00	71,275.00	-	<b>312,008.00</b>
8	Bokta	85,800.00	80,839.00	-	72,225.00	103,440.00	<b>342,304.00</b>
9	Chekigo	-	183,535.00	121,900.00	71,650.00	72,970.00	<b>450,055.00</b>
10	Lobuche West	38,750.00	73,490.00	35,250.00	35,825.00	-	<b>183,315.00</b>
11	Larkya	115,915.00	111,345.00	116,720.00	295,380.00	173,186.00	<b>812,546.00</b>
12	ABI	-	-	-	36,775.00	-	<b>36,775.00</b>
13	Yubra Himal	38,750.00	73,615.00	35,250.00	36,400.00	-	<b>184,015.00</b>
14	Chhukung Ri	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	Yala	380,177.00	825,925.50	707,618.00	581,455.00	768,080.00	3,263,255.50
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,320,682.00</b>	<b>2,194,528.50</b>	<b>2,083,261.00</b>	<b>2,030,940.00</b>	<b>2,100,140.00</b>	<b>9,729,551.50</b>

Source: NMA, Official Recor: 2008.

The table 5.8 shows that income from trekkers has been fluctuating. From 2002/03 to 2003/04 there is high increase in income and then decline till 2005/06. In 2006/07, again seen increase in income. It may be the cause of peace in Nepal after 2nd movement.

Yala is the major source of income among group 'A' peaks, from which Rs. 32, 63,255.50 was gained from all total Rs. 97, 29, 55.50 in this five year. Almost one third income among group 'A' peak was only from it. Then, Cholatse was in second position which indicates Rs. 15, 28,140 in these five years. Other popular peaks in the context of income were Nirekha, Larkya, Kyazo-Ri and Langsisa-Ri which had more than five lakh in these five years. Chhukung Ri was only one peak having no income till 2006/06. ABI, Phari Lapcha, Lobuche West, Yubra Himal, Machhermo etc. were less popular in the context of income in this five year.

## **5.6 Regulations Relating to Mountaineering in Nepal**

The Government has made the following rules for mountaineering in Nepal by exercising the power of section 56 of the Tourism Act 2035 B.S. (1978 A.D.).

### **5.6.1 Permit**

Any mountaineering team desirous of obtaining a permit for undertaking an expedition must submit an application, in the form as prescribed, to the Ministry of Tourism and civil Aviation Mountaineering section (Tel: 256228, 247037, 256231; Fax: 22728) enclosing therein a recommendation of the concerned Government or of the Mountaineering Association (U.I.A.A.) or the recommendation of the Embassy of the home country, ordinarily four months prior to its proposed mountaineering expedition. Together with the application, the team must submit a route map depicting the expedition route or the caravan route. After the scrutiny of the application the Ministry will issue the permit for spring autumn, or the winter season.

### **5.6.2 Expedition Route**

All mountaineering teams should strictly follow the route as prescribed in the permit issued by the MoTCA. If it is indispensable to change the fixed route due to specific reasons, it should be informed to the Ministry through the Liaison officer. The Liaison officer is the officer deputed by the Ministry under section 20 of Tourism Act 1978 to accompany any mountaineering team. The officer belongs either to the Army, the



police or civil service. He works as an interpreter and communicates with the Ministry regarding the plans and programmes of the expedition. He is liable to inform in the case of any accidents concerning to death or injury of any member in the expedition, either it foreigner or Nepalese the latter serving the expedition as a sardar, mountain guide, base camp worker, high altitude worker or local worker. As such the Liaison officer is entitled to supervise the expedition and take care of any inconvenience if it so arises.

### **5.6.3 Equipment for Expedition**

The Government may provide the following facilities to any mountaineering team which has obtained a permit for mountaineering expedition:

1. To import and use temporarily, during the expedition such number of walkie-talkies not exceeding 12 and two sets of wireless having the capacity to communicate between the base camp and the nearest police station or the place where the means of telecommunication is available on the condition that such sets shall be taken back to the home country of the team after the end of the expedition.
2. Partial exemption of customs duty on the goods and materials imported for the expedition.
3. Two sets of wireless having the capacity to communicate between the base camp and the capital city Kathmandu, provide the mountaineering team desirous to use such facility shall have to hand over one of the two sets of wireless to the Ministry of Tourism and civil Aviation, Mountaineering section, for its use during the continuation of the expedition. ([http://nepalmountainnews. Com/ Expedition\\_Regulation. P hp](http://nepalmountainnews.com/Expedition_Regulation.php) />11<sup>th</sup> April 2008)

### **5.6.4 Insurance**

1. A mountaineering expedition team shall cause the lives of Liaison officers, sardars, Mountain-guides, base –camp-workers and altitude workers to be insured with a prescribed insurer for a prescribed sum of its own cost against the risk of personal

accident before engaging them. Provided that, the personal accident insurance of local-workers shall not be compulsory.

2. If a person, who is to be insured pursuant to sub-section (1) dies of or sustains injury in an accident whilst on his duty, before being insured, on account of engaging him on the way or due to any other reason, the concerned mountaineering expedition team shall make a payment as compensation to his or his legal heir the amount of money equal to the amount to be insured as if he were insured.
3. If a Local-workers, while on his duty, dies of or sustains injury in an accident, the concerned mountaineering expedition team shall compensate to him or his legal heir pursuant to sub-section (2) in case such person was not being insured.

Insurance may be done from the National Insurance Corporation or from other insurance company authorized by the MoTCA. Certain amounts have been fixed for the people involved in various duties and responsibilities in serving the expedition. The Personal insurance amount is as follows:

- a. For Liaison Officer: Six hundred thousand NRs
- b. For Headman and Mountain Guide: Five hundred thousand NRs.
- c. For High altitude worker: Four hundred thousand NRs.
- d. For Base Camp worker: Three hundred and Fifty thousand NRs.
- e. For local worker: Two hundred and Fifty thousand NRs.
- f. The Mountaineering Expedition team has to make a medical insurance of not less than 50,000 NRs each for the Liaison officer, headman, mountain guide, high altitude worker, base camp worker and the local worker against minor injuries while on duty (MoTCA, 2004 : 28-29).

Any mountaineering team acquiring a permit for the expedition can apply to the MoTCA for the post payment of the proposed date to a later date at least for months before the to be expedition. The Ministry may grant permission or the postponement if no other expedition team has hitherto been granted for the date referred. However,

permission shall not be granted to postpone the date for more than 2 years or to transfer the royalty to other Himalayan peaks.

#### **5.6.5 Facilities Provided to People other than Team Members**

The expedition team must take of certain things for the persons employed in the expedition. The team should provide a daily allowance of 500 NRs to the Liaison officer, 400 NRs to the head man, 350 NRs to the mountain guide and the high altitude worker and similarly 300 NRs to the base camp worker and the local worker. Along with the financial incentive the team must provide an opportunity for those people to summit the concerned peak if they have accompanied the team to the last bivouac or the cap. Similarly there is a provision made for these people as to how much weight a load one is entitled to carry depending upon increasing altitude. The team shall not allow the local worker to carry more than 30 kgs in around the base camp. The regulations permit them to carry a weight load of 20 kgs between 5000 to 6000m, 17 kgs between 6000 to 7000m, 14 kgs between 7001 to 8000m and 12 kgs above 8000m. However, depending upon the mutual consent amongst the liaison officer, the leader of the mountaineering expedition team and the worker a weight load of extra 5 kgs may be carried upon an inevitable situation if any.

#### **5.6.6 Environment Management**

Every mountaineering team has to destroy or bury all the materials that have been discarded during or after the expedition. Every expedition has to deposit a certain amount of environment or garbage management fee before undertaking an expedition to the concerned peak. The fee varies for deferent mountain ranges depending upon the altitude of the peak. The fee however, is refundable provided the expedition team brings back all the discarded materials with them to the Base camp. In the Khumbu region, the Sagarmatha Pollution Control Committee (SPCC) takes cash deposits of US\$ 4,000 from each expedition as the environmental fee. Similarly the Annapurna Conservation Area Project (ACAP) collects the fees in the Annapurna region. The for all the NMA 33 peaks

is US\$ 250.00 (Nepal Parbat, 2006). The materials considered as garbage is categorized as follows:

- a. Garbage which can be destroyed: Toilet paper, paper, cardboard, bamboo materials, jute and cotton bag, decomposed food or dead body.
- b. Garbage which can be recycled: Tin, bottle, jar, plastic can, plastic sheet, reusable gas cylinder, plastic bag and gas container.
- c. Garbage which has to be imported: Used oxygen bottle, used battery, climbing equipment and personal goods etc. (MoTCA, 2004:52).

The fee is payable in US\$ or equivalent Nepalese rupees. The tables 17 below shows the environmental management fee for various peaks as prefixed by the MoTCA:

**Table 5.17. Environmental Management Fee for the Mountains of Khumbu and Annapurna Ranges:**

For Mount Everest	US\$ 4,000
Other mountains above 8001m (except Everest)	US\$ 3,000
7,001 to 8,000m and Amadablam mountain	US\$ 2,000
6,501 to 7000m	US\$ 1,000
Less than 7,000m	US\$ 500

Source: MoCTCA, 2004:51.

The environmental management fees for the other mountains of above 9,00m I US\$ 3,000 and the same for the mountains of less than 8,000m is US\$ 500.

### **2.6.7 Regulations to be Followed by the Mountaineering Team**

The expedition team should confine itself to the specified peak. Mountains not opened for scaling should not be attempted. Almost attention is required in setting upon specified camps, applying specified equipment, using approved communication means as mentioned in the permit and should not in activities like acquiring arms and ammunition and gun powder, destroying the forest resources or pollution the fragile mountain environment. The team must not trespass the international boundary especially while climbing the border bestriding mountains and should submit all the rare objects found during the course to the Government through the Liaison officer. In case of the violation of the above mentioned regulations the concerned team may be subjected to a penalty. It

could be in a five or a ten year ban on entering Nepal and carrying out any expedition in the Nepal Himalayas. Similarly the penalty may also include a fine equal to twice or thrice the royalty paid for the concerned peak. If any team attempts the peak that has not been opened the team may be charged thrice the royalty for Mt.Everest. The law is equally applicable for the Nepalese expeditions too.

## **5.7 Mountaineering Regulations of the Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)**

The Nepal Mountaineering Association in exercise of the powers conferred by the Government since 2002 has been issuing permits to 33 peaks, all below the height of 7,000m. Generally called as the trekking peaks, these peaks are considered climbable by anyone with a moderate knowledge of mountaineering. Successful climbs of these peaks may be a preparatory prior to venturing the 8000m peaks. The NMA has made the following rules to be observed for the very peaks.

### **5.7.1 Permission**

Any person or mountaineering team desirous of climbing the NMA peaks must obtain a permit from the NMA. Permission to climb these peaks is issued for a period of one month only. The permission however, may be extended, if necessary, for a period of another two weeks. The period of permission granted relates to the time spent for climbing above the base camp. The trek to and from the base camp is not included. Application for climbing permit may be made at any time by the concerned mountaineering team. Permit is granted on first come first serve basis. The right to give permission to another team for climbing the same peak during the period is reserved by the NMA. The NMA recommends to the Immigration office of the Government of Nepal for obtaining the trekking permit. At the same time the NMA has the power to cancel or withdraw the climbing permit with or without showing any particular reason.

### **5.7.3 Insurance**

Every individual or a party to have been granted a climbing permit must be accompanied by a Sridhar/Guide registered to NMA and all employees going above the base camp must be insured for personal accident to value of NRs 200,000.00.

### **5.7.4 Protection of environment**

It is regulatory for any team to keep to base and other camps perfectly clean at the conclusion of the climb. No foreign materials such as fix rope, pitons etc. must be left on the mountains all rubbish and waste materials must be burn or otherwise disposes off.

### **5.7.5 Penalty**

If any team acts in contravention to the climbing permit or indulges in acts or unsocial or outrageous behavior, the NMA may recommend to the ministry to take necessary action in accordance with the article 37 of mountaineering regulation 1979.

## CHAPTER SIX

# NEPAL MOUNTAINEERING ASSOCIATION AS A MOUNTAINEERING CLUB OF NEPAL

### 6.1 Background

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) established on 1<sup>st</sup> November 1973; is a alpine club of Nepal. In the establishing period it was an important autonomous organization, privilege only for the members of the royal family and associates. During the establishment, Nepal Mountaineering Association formed its executive body under the leadership of Kumar Khadka Vikram Shah, King Birendra's brother-in-law indicators the trend of the past. Initially NMA annually collected NRs 3-4 crore (30-40 million) revenue but failed to assure its proper utilization due to the absence of clear objectives and concrete work-plan (Nepal Parbat, 2009:80).



Photo 6.1. Official Building of NMA, Nagpokhari, Kathmandu

Its establishment was conceived essential to materialize the high prospect of developing mountain tourism (trekking and mountaineering) in the country, with the feeling that only government and their agencies would not be able to achieve the expected utilization and promotion of trekking and mountaineering activities in Nepal.

### 6.2 Nepal Mountain Association and its Activities

Nepal Mountain Association is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-political organization working as a national alpine association of Nepal to promote mountain tourism, climbing sports, protect mountain environments and preserve and promote cultural heritage of mountain people.

It is the only national alpine club authorized to issue climbing permits for 33 mountain peaks of Nepal. The income generated from issuing permits is utilized to manage the International Mountain Museum in Pokhara and International Mountaineers Memorial Park in Kakani along with conducting mountaineering training and welfare activities. From its establishment NMA has not only been engaged in the mountaineering training, welfare and promotion but has also supported overall development of the tourism sector of Nepal. The main objectives of NMA are as follows Nepal Parbat, 2009:89):

- J Make mountaineering & trekking popular amongst Nepalese people.
- J Generate public interest towards mountaineering.
- J Conduct various activities to promote Nepalese Mountains.
- J Support the work to benefit professional climbers and individuals involved in mountaineering and develop mountain climbing skills & efficiencies.
- J Protect the Nepalese mountain & natural beauties and environment of mountain areas.
- J Co-ordinate and organize Nepalese climbing teams, conduct mountain climbing campaigns and other activities related to mountaineering.
- J Assist & advice concerned authorities in formulating conducive policies & increase mountaineering activities.
- J Obtain national & international recognition to Nepal Mountaineering Association.
- J Train Nepalese & Foreigners for mountaineering & Rescue operation & establish training centre.
- J Encourage more foreign mountaineering teams to climb mountains in Nepal.
- J Upgrade, operate and manage International Mountain Museum.
- J Establish and develop International Mountaineers' Memorial Park.
- J Adhere to Tourism Act & mountaineering regulations mentioned in the Act.
- J Keep cordial relationship with regional & international institutions related to Mountaineering, Himalayan environment and sports climbing.
- J Promote and preserve cultural heritage of local mountain people.



### **6.3 Formation of Executive Committee**

At the beginning, genuine mountaineering and trekking guides, authentic entrepreneurs and professionals found it difficult to get a membership at the association. Seeing the anomalies, the aware and self-standing trekking entrepreneurs and mountaineers started a campaign of garnering support to stop such practices about four years ago. Meanwhile Nepal entered a transitional phase. As a result of fusion between People's war and People's movement the country earned complete democracy (Loktantra) in 2006. Today Nepal is a republic state. At this juncture of historic achievement, supporters of social transformation have been putting whole-hearted collective efforts to establish NMA as one of the leading alpine-clubs in the world.

Every three years an election is held to elect Central Executive Board Officials & Members of NMA. In the Composition of the Central Executive Board there one president, one immediate past president, two vice president, one general secretary and one secretary, one treasurer, nine executive members from general members, two executive members from book holder members, one executive member from institutional member three executive members from nominated and three ex-officio member from MoTCA, TAAN and HRA. Central Secretariat looks after day to day activities of NMA. The Secretariat comprises of General Secretary, Secretary, Treasurer and 4 Central Executive Member. Members of executive board are selected among Everest or 2 times 8000m. Summiteers, mountaineers and any individual Nepalese citizen interested in mountaineering can be the general member of NMA. Trekking, travel and mountain tourism related agencies can be associated members. Institutional Members such as different tourism organizations. Book Holder members(Professional Members) such as sardar, senior support climbers, support climbers, cook and kitchen boys. To be Life Members Nepalese have to pay Rs. 25,000/- as approved by Executive Committee and for Foreigners- US\$ 1000.00 as approved by Executive Committee Honorary Members can be a person proposed by Executive Committee and Approved by AGM. Besides, the executive board NMA has a provision of Advisory Committee consisting of one chief advisor and six advisors.

## 6.4 Activities of NMA

Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA) established on November 1, 1973 is a non-governmental, non-profit and non-political organization working as a National Alpine Association of Nepal to promote mountain tourism, climbing sports, protect mountain environments and preserve and promote cultural heritage of mountain people(Nepal Parbat:2006). It is the only national alpine club authorized to issue climbing permits for 33 mountain peaks of Nepal. Since then it has been active in the promotion of mountain tourism and the conservation of the mountain ecology in the country besides its other activities including philanthropic ones. The activities of NMA can be listed as follows (Nepal Parbat, 2009:95):

1. Management and Operation of International Mountain Museum, the world's biggest museum on man, mountains and mountain activities. The museum is built on 100 ropanis land at Pokhara and has living museum and Artificial Wall Climbing.
2. Development and promotion of International Mountaineers' Memorial Park built on 142 ropanis land, 33km. north of Kathmandu. The park has Artificial Wall Climbing, Camping Site, Picnic Sport, Tree Plantation and Memorial Monument of the late mountaineers.
3. Conduct Basic/Advance mountaineering Training to train at least 50 Nepalese and foreigners each year to meet the need of skilled manpower for mountain tourism in Nepal. Conduct and coordinate international level of trainings like Aspirant Guide, High Mountain Rescue and ENSA in France, female leadership training and orientation class to young children about mountain, rock and wall climbing.
4. Provide scholarship for school education to the children of late mountaineers, medical assistant to injured mountaineers, life long stipend to disabled mountaineers, financial support to the families of late mountaineers and employment to renowned mountaineers.
5. Coordination and operation of rescue with rescue squad and management of necessary rescue gears.
6. Publicity and Publication to promote NMA Peaks, Sports, Mountain Climbing and Mountain Tourism in Nepal through publication of informative materials such as

- Special issues of Nepal Part, Monthly e-News, Peaks and Pinnacles and other publicity brochures.
7. Protection of Himalayan environment and management of garbage in mountains and tourists area including regular cleaning program and campaign.
  8. Local Development Projects such as setting of new climbing routes, construction and repair of trails, bridges, porter shelters and toilet in mountain areas.
  9. Active Participation in the Annual Meeting and Programs of Union of international Alpine Association (UIAA) Union of Asia Alpine Association(UAAA) and International Federation of Sports Climbing (IFFSC) to harmonize relationship on behalf of Nepal with international and regional tourism, environment and Alpinist agencies and associations.
  10. Felicitation to successful summiteers of 8,000m. Mountain and Special Felicitation to record holder summiteers of each year.
  11. Memorial Day at international Mountaineers' Memorial Park, Kakani in memories and honors of the late mountaineers.

Monitor and control illegal Climbing on NMA Peaks with cooperation and active participation of Local Clubs and Communities.

### **6.5 Cast Wise NMA Member**

In the association like NMA, the involvement of representative of different cast/ethnic groups in the executive committee may help smooth and achievement oriented operation of the organization. Therefore, from the begin NMA central committee is formed by representative of differ ethnic groups.

The table 4.1 shows the clear figure of cast wise representative in the Central Executive Board member. Where representative variation within the casts seems very high. The first committee of NMA was of fifteen members in which five Brahman and 3/3 from Sherpa and Tamang and rest was other cast. But representative of Sherpa in the Executive Board committee increased notably in the successive committee. Among the total members of the Central Executive Board Committee of 2008, 45.67 are from

Sherpa, followed by Brahman 18.90 percentages. The third position 13.39 was occupied by Tamang. The next position is by representative from different organization like NTB, TAAN etc.

**Table 6.1. Cast Wise Member in CEB of NMA by Year**

Year \ Cast	1973-1990	1990-1992	1993-1996	1996-1999	1999-2002	2002-2005	2005-2008	Total
<b>Kshetri</b>	2	1	1	1	-	-	2	7
<b>Brahman</b>	5	5	1	2	2	5	4	24
<b>Sherpa</b>	3	3	9	12	11	11	9	58
<b>Gurung</b>	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
<b>Newar</b>	-	1	1	-	-	2	2	6
<b>Limbu</b>	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
<b>Kunwar</b>	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Tamang(Organiz ation)</b>	3	-	3	2	2	3	4	17
<b>Representatives</b>	1	-	-	-	2	3	3	9
<b>Total</b>	15	11	17	17	17	25	25	12

Source: [www.nepalmountaineering.org/nmapeaks.php](http://www.nepalmountaineering.org/nmapeaks.php)

## 6.6 Gender Wise Member

During the establishment in November 1, 1973 the Central Executive Board was formed of fifteen members with no female member. Similarly committee formed in 1990 also governed by 11 male members. Not only that, no female member had been seen since its origin to 1999. After twenty six year of its establishment, Ngimi Sherpa being a female became a member in the committee of central executive Board member (1999-2002). The next committee of this board (2002-2005) which was built with 25 members was also ignoring the female, where total members were male. After three year gap of

**Table 6.2. Gender Wise Member in CEB of NMA by Year**

Year \ Gender	1973-1990	1990-1992	1993-1996	1996-1999	1999-2002	2002-2005	2005-2008	Total
<b>Male</b>	14	11	17	15	14	22	21	114
<b>Female</b>	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
<b>Rep.</b>	1	-	-	2	2	3	3	11
<b>Total</b>	15	11	17	17	17	25	25	127

Source: [www.nepalmountaineering.org/nmapeaks.php](http://www.nepalmountaineering.org/nmapeaks.php)

Note: Rep. Means representatives from organization or office like TAAN, NTB, MoTCA etc.

female representative, Mrs. Kamini L. Sherpa was included in the committee of 2005-2008 A.D. and the same Central Executive Board Member is active at the present time, till the end of 2009. Till now, no female presented as a member in the major post in the CEB. Among the total member of CEB, since 1973 only 1.58 percent female became its member where 89.76 percent member was male with total in the major post and the representative form other office was 8.66 percent. It is supposed that female member in the representative list must be very few and we can conclude that that CEB of NMA has been captured by male person.

## **6.7 Financial Aspects of NMA**

The transformations also resulted in long awaited dissolution of the past team and setting a new leadership and taskforce, in mid 2007. Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation played a vital role in this regard. The present taskforce has the primary responsibility to conduct elections at the earliest so that the association can proceed with clear objectives and concrete plans for the benefit of the mountaineering sector.

While looking at the efforts of last year, it can be clearly seen that NMA is undergoing radical changes, including financial improvements. For example, International Mountain Museum (IMM) in Pokhara was at loss until last fiscal year (2007-2008). However, following the formation of ne taskforce and deputation of new leadership, IMM has earned NRs 18,73,503/- in the first 9 months of the current fiscal year. Estimates for the remaining three months indicate a net profit of NRs 25 lakh (2.5 million) for IMM. The number of tourists visiting IMM Pokhara can be increased in geometric ratio, in case public transportation is extended up to this museum. About 50 percent of one lakh fifty thousand tourist visiting Pokhar can be attracted to visit the museum through effective promotion and publicity. Dissemination message through radio and television and advertising with colorful attractive signboards/hoardings/ posters in English and Nepali in tourist hotels, restaurants, travel/tour/trekking/rafting agencies,

airlines offices, airports etc. will help in attracting more visitors to IMM, Pokhara. With such process it can raise the revenue to more than NRs 22.5 million. Similarly, while the saving of the association was NRs 1 million at the end of last fiscal year (2007-2008) it increased to about NRs 30 million in the first nine months of current fiscal year. Investment and expenditure through scientific planning can further bring highly positive results by properly mobilizing the savings in the interest of mountaineers, peak promotions well as for welfare and development. Doubtlessly all such efforts will lead Nepal tourism to greater heights.

The government of Nepal has authorized NMA to issue permits for mountaineering of 18 Himalaya peaks between 5,587 m. to 6,656 located at the Manang, Annapurna, Langtang and Khumbu area, since 1987(Appendix-1). Mera Peak (6,654m.) is the tallest among these 18 peaks while Mardi Himal (5, 587m) is the smallest in altitude. These 18 Peaks are also known as the NMA climbing peaks. From 2002 AD NMA has also been given the rights according to the government's decision, to issue mountaineering permits to other 15 new peaks to climbers and mountaineers. Presently, NMA issue mountaineering permits of 33 peaks of Nepal Himalaya. Therefore, at present, fees collected from issuing peak permits for 33 peaks to foreign climbing teams is the main financial resource of NMA. Beside this, NMA draws its financial resource from membership fees, donations, assistance and gifts received in cash and kind from the Government of Nepal, national and international individuals and organization.

- ) Royalty of 33 peaks
- ) General members fee
- ) Associate members fee
- ) Institutional members fee
- ) Book holder members ID fee
- ) Ticket sales IMM Pokhara & IMMP, Kakani
- Miscellaneous

The association has the following sources of receipts and assets

1. donations, associations, and gifts received from Government of Nepal, national and international bodies, individuals and organizations
2. member entrance fees and annual membership fees, and registration/renewal fees received from mountaineering professionals
3. assets generating by the Association
4. return on investment made by the Association
5. fees collected for issuing peak climbing permit to foreign mountaineering teams as well as the fees for recommendation for joint mountaineering
6. Other incomes

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### MOUNTAIN TOURISM AND THE CLIMBERS

#### 7.1 Introduction

In this chapter, an attempt has been made to assess the mountain tourism development, on the basis of views and perception collected through the questionnaire with the trekker and mountaineers. Presentation and analysis have been done in three sections. The survey results are presented and analyzed using mean values, percentage or other appropriate tools to suit the particular response.

#### 7.2 Survey Finding of Trekkers and Mountaineers

This section is related to the response of trekkers and mountaineers, who came Nepal in 2009 to climb NMA peak. Altogether, 10 trekkers and mountaineers of different standers were filled the questionnaire. In the scaled questionnaire, mean value has been computed and analyzed on the basis of mean results. Besides, simple percentages were computed to present and analyze the views and responses of the trekkers and mountaineers.

**Table 7.1. Distribution of Climber by Nationality**

S.N.	Country	Male	Female	Total Number	Percentage
1	Japan	1	1	2	20
2	U.K.	2	-	2	20
3	Poland	1	-	1	10
4	Norway	1	-	1	10
5	Switzerland	1	-	1	10
6	France	1	-	1	10
7	Canada	1	-	1	10
8	Australia	1	-	1	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.1 provides information about climber arrived from different countries. Out of 10 climbers, the interviewed tourist of the proportionate share on the



basis of regions was 2 or 20 percent from Japan, 2 (20 percent) from U.K., and 10/10 percent from Poland, Norway, Switzerland, France, Canada and Australia. Out of 10 respondents, the nine respondents or 90% were male and 1(10%) were females from Japan.

**Table 7.2. Marital Status of the Climber**

S.N.	Marital Status	Number	Percentage
1	Married	8	80
2	Unmarried	2	20
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

In the table 7.2 the respondents 8(80%) were married and only 2(20%) respondents were unmarried.

**Table 7.3. Climbers by Age Groups**

S.N.	Age Group	Number	Percentage
1	Below 30 years	1	10
2	30-40	3	30
3	Over 40	6	60
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.3 shows that out of 10 total respondents only 1(10%) was of below 30 years, 3(30%) were between 30 to 40 years and over 40 years were 6(60%) respectively.

**Table 7.4. Educational Status of the Climbers**

S.N.	Educational Status	Number	Percentage
1	School Education	-	-
2	Under Graduate	4	40
3	Post Graduate	5	50
4	Doctoral	-	-
5	Any Other	1	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.4 demonstrates that among 10 respondents no one was school education, 4(40%) were under graduate, 5(50%) were post graduated and 1(10%) was other informal of fellowship degree.

**Table 7.5. Frequency of Visit to Nepal**

S.N.	Response	Number	Percentage
1	Yes	2	20
2	No	8	80
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Out of the total sample of 10 respindents, 2(20%) were those who had already visited Nepal and 8(80%) respondents were those who visited Nepal for the first time.

**Table 7.6. Climbers by Their Occupation**

S.N.	Occupation	Number	Percentage
1	Service	5	50
2	Business	3	30
3	Student	1	10
4	Other	1	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.6 illustrates, 5 (50%) respondent's occupations were service, 3 (30%) respondent's occupations were business, 1(10%) respondent's occupation was student and 1(10%) respondent's was involved in other services.

**Table 7.7 .Climbers Who Has Plan to Visited Other Countries after Nepal**

S.N.	Response	Number	Percentage
1	Yes	2	20
2	No	8	80
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

From the table 7.7, it shows the 2(20%) climbers visited the other countries on their journey to Nepal and 8(80%) climbers came only for Nepal.

The table 7.8 portrays that the majority of climbers i.e. 7(70%) had perceived Nepal as the country of Mount Everest. Similarly, 4(40%), 1(10%), 6(60%) and 2(20%) climbers had perceived Nepal as the birth place of Lord Buddha and the land of scenic beauty. The land of Brave Gorkha's and the land of Sherpas, and 2(20%) respondents perceived Nepal as the all of above the indicated image.

**Table 7.8. Mountaineers and Motivating Factor of Nepal**

S.N.	Motivating Factor	Number of Mountaineers	Percentage
1	The country of Mount Everest	7	70
2	The birth place of Lord Buddha	4	40
3	The land of Brave Gorkha's	1	10
4	The land of scenic beauty	4	40
5	The land of Sherpas	1	10
6	A Himalayan country	6	60
7	All of the above	2	20
8	Others	-	00

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

**Table 7.9. Length of Stay of Climbers**

S.N.	Country	Total No. of Climbers	Total days	Average of Days
1	Japan	2	70	35
2	U.K.	2	100	50
3	Poland	1	30	30
4	Norway	1	45	45
5	Switzerland	1	45	45
5	France	1	60	60
7	Canada	1	30	30
8	Australia	1	30	30
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>41</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.9 demonstrates the length of stay of climbers from different country. According to the table 10 climbers from France stay longer, 60 days than other. British live 50 days. In the same way the staying length of Norwegian and climbers from Switzerland was 45 days and Canadian and Australian very few days that was 30 days.

**Table 7.10. Average Expenditure Pattern of Climbers per Day in NRs**

S.N.	Expenditure per day	Number	Percentage
1	1000-1500	1	10
2	1500-2000	2	20
3	2000-2500	2	20
4	2500-3000	3	30
5	3000-3500	2	20
6	More than 3500	-	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The majority of climber's average expenditure per day was 2500-3000 (Table 7.10), like wise, the average expenditure of 1(10%), and 2(20%) climbers were 1000-1500NRs, and 1500-2000NRs. Climbers from U.K. spend more , 3000 per day in average followed by France which was 2500 to 3000. Climber from Poland spend less which was only 1000 to 1500 than others country. Canadian and Japanese spend 1500 to 2000. In the same way mountaineering from Australia and Norway spend 2000 to 2500 per day.

**Table 7.11. Tourism Publicity Materials Published By Government of Nepal, Nepal Embassies and Travel/Trekking Agencies**

S.N.	Response	Number	Percentage
1	Yes	9	90
2	No	1	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.11 exhibits, 9(90%) climbers read the publicity materials relation to tourism, published by government of Nepal, Nepal embassies and travel/trekking agencies.

**Table 7.12. Expenditure of Climber in This Journey**

S.N.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Average
Expenditure(lakh)	2.00	3.00	1.50	2.00	2.00	2.30	2.25	2.10	1.25	2.00	2.04

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The average expenditure of the Climber on this journey was 2,04, 000.

**Table 7.13. Nature of Expenditure of the Climbers in Average**

S.N.	Item of expenditure	Nature of Expenditure in Rs.	Percentage
1	Transport	60996	29.9
2	Food	39780	19.5
3	Recreation	20808	10.2
4	Residence	38760	19.0
5	Royalty	9180	4.5
6	Equipment	7752	3.8
7	Other	27948	13.7
	Overall	2,05,224	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.13 demonstrates the nature of expenditure of mountaineers in which it is seen that the heavy amount of money (29.9%) of total expenditure of a mountaineer spends in transportation followed by food (19.5%) and residence (19%). About ten percent (10.2%) spend in recreation which is less amount compare to the transportation, food and residence. Money spends in the items like royalty and equipment is very low although they want to reduce it rather to increase.

**Table 7.14. The Sources of Information that Influenced Mountaineers to Come to Nepal**

S.N.	Factor	Number	Percent
1	Friends/relatives	7	70
2	Tourist Office	2	20
3	Travel/Trekking agencies	2	20
4	Tourist Guide Book	3	30
5	Newspaper	-	-
6	Business Linkage	3	30
7	Magazine	3	30
8	Trade show/fairs	2	20
9	Television	2	20

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.4 portrays that the majority of climbers 7(70%) had influenced by their fiends or relatives. Similarly 2(20%), and 3(30%) climbers had influenced by Tourist office, Trekking agencies, Trade show, Television and 3(30%) had influenced by Tourist guide book, Business linkage and Magazine.

**Table 7.15. NMA Peaks and the Arrivals of the Mountaineers**

S.N.	Peaks	Number	Percentage
1	Khongmatse	1	1
2	Island	2	20
3	Mere	2	20
4	Yala	2	20
5	Nirekha	1	10
6	Pisang	1	10
7	Larkya	1	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.5 describe that most of the climber was gone toward Island, Mera and Yala peak. There are 2(20%) climbers was to them and only 1(10%) was toward Khongmatse, Nirekha, Pisang and Larkya peak.

**Table 7.16. Rating of Mountaineers to the Attraction of Nepal**

S.N.	Frequency	Percentage
Very Good	2	20
Good	1	10
Satisfactory	3	30
Needs Improvement	4	40
Very Poor	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

In regard, the rating of marketing in Nepal seemed need to improvement. Forty percent respondents observed as need to improvement (Table 7.16) and 30% respondents observed as satisfactory. Twenty percent observed as very good and only 10 percent climbers observed rating of tourism marketing good in Nepal. From the Table 18, we can conclude that tourism marketing of Nepal must be improved.

Nine or ninety percent climbers accepted the economic impact of mountain tourism (Field Survey, 2009) and only 1(10%) of them rejected the economic impact of mountain tourism in mountain region of Nepal. So, an attempt has been made to find out the opinion of climbers regarding whether they perceived any economic impacts of mountain tourism in the mountain region of Nepal (Field Survey, 2009).

**Table 7.17. Types of Economic Impact of Mountain Tourism**

S.N.	Factor	Response	Percentage
1	Employment opportunities	10	100
2	Tax income	9	90
3	Foreign exchange	9	90
4	Souvenirs	7	70
5	Improved Standard of Living	8	80
6	Business opportunity	9	90
7	Development of infrastructure	6	60
8	Other	2	20

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

The table 7.17 illustrates that the total number of respondents 10(100%) climbers have opined employment opportunities as the economic impact of mountain tourism. Other impacts responded by the respondents were business opportunity ((90%), improve stander of living 8(80%), souvenirs 7(70%), development of infrastructure 6(60%), and others 2(20%).

**Table 7.18. Mountaineers Response on Mountaineers Royalty**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Satisfactory	9	90
Unsatisfactory	1	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

Majority of the respondents i.e. 9(90%) were satisfied with the royalty regarding climber and 1(10%) respondents were found unsatisfied with royalty regarding climber.

**Table 7.19. Nature of Manpower Involved In Tourism Industry in Nepal**

Responses	Frequency	Percentage
Well trained	3	30
No so well trained	7	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

From the table 7.19, it is clear that majority of the respondent i.e. 7(70%) were commented that no so well trained/skilled manpower in tourism industry of Nepal and only 3(30%) response as well trained manpower in Nepalese tourism industry.

The research shows that 6(60%) climbers has responded that they liked to re-visit Nepal, and 4(40%) respondents did not liked to re-visit Nepal. Therefore, we can conclude that the maximum climbers are not wanted to re-visit of Nepal.

In the context of environment, all the climbers felt the environmental impact of mountain tourism in region. There was no climber that was not aware about the environmental impact of mountain tourism in Nepal (Field Survey, 2009).

**Table 7.20. Responses of Mountaineers on the Environmental Impact in Mountain Tourism**

S.N.	Factor	Responses	Percentage
1	Degradation of scenic appeal	3	30
2	Measures of hold pollution	1	10
3	Erosion of trekking trails/bridges	5	50
4	Garbage/pollution	10	100
5	Maintenance of scenic landscape	3	30
6	Deforestation/destruction of fauna	5	50
7	Cleanliness	2	20
8	Congestion/over burdening	1	10
9	Better area protection	1	10
10	Lack of toilet/camp site	4	40
11	Others	-	100

Source: Field Survey, 2009.

From the table 7.20, it is clear that all 10(100%) of respondents perceived the occurrence of environmental impact by garbage pollution correspondingly, other major environmental impacts pointed out by respondents were erosion of trekking trail/bridge and deforestation/destruction of fauna 5(50%), Lack of camp site with toilet 4(40%), degradation of scenic appeal and maintenance of scenic land cape 3(30%) and as the same way cleanliness, measure of hold pollution, congestion/over burdening etc. were the factor of environmental impact.



## CHAPTER EIGHT

### SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

#### 8.1 Summary

Nepal was completely isolated from the cross current world opinion, hitherto the Democratic Revolution of 1950. The onset of democracy opened new vistas for Nepal vis-à-vis to the institutionalization of tourism, expansion of tourism products and the strengthening of her diplomatic foreign relations. Nonetheless, the snow clad pinnacles of Nepal, had curiously been under the Great Trigonometrically Grid Survey of the British India. It was in 1852 that the Survey struck a eureka by discovering the highest peak of the world located in Nepal and naming it *Mont Everest* in 1865 after the retired Superintendent General, Sir George Everest. Nepal still opted to remain in a majestic isolation except for a few sneaky illicit trespassers and a bunch of special foreign invitees and guests of honour; the venture of those too delimited by restrictions.

However, as years passed by liberalism gradually made its way from the forbidden country, and the successful ascent of Mt. Annapurna I (8091m) in 1950 not only marked the beginning of tourism in Nepal but also opened its long closed doors to the outside world. The successful ascent of Mt. Everest in 1953 via the South Col route of Nepal, despite 16 expedition failures and the loss of 13 lives from the North Col Route (Tibet)m not held a magnum opus in the feat of mountaineering but introduced Nepal all over the world.

Since, then Nepal has been the focal point for trekking and mountaineering from all over the world. Though, the mountain can be climbed from both Nepal and China, yet by all standards Nepal has the longest history of operating mountaineering expeditions in the Himalayas, dating back to 1950. With peaks opened for climbing and harboring amidst its congregate, 13 out of the 19, eight thousand meter peaks of the world, Nepal has evolved as one of the ultimate mountaineering destinations of the world.

After the feeling that only government and their agencies would not be able to achieve the expected utilization and promotion of trekking and mountaineering activities in Nepal, Nepal Mountaineering Association was established on 1<sup>st</sup> November 1973. Its establishment was conceived essential to materialize the high prospect of developing mountain tourism (trekking and mountaineering) in the country. From its establishment NMA has not only been engaged in the mountaineering training, welfare and promotion but has also supported overall development of the tourism sector of Nepal.

Now trekking and mountaineering are important tourism activities in the country. From the perspective of diversification of tourism activities and length of the stay of tourists, the climber is an appropriate medium. The study shows that average length of stay of trekkers and mountaineers is 41 days, whereas the length of stay of general tourist's is 9.09 days. Thus it is sure that according to their staying length expenditure of them must be more than other type of tourism. Especially, trekking and mountaineering have substantially been contribution to present varied tastes or new products to tourists. The majority of trekkers and mountaineers and tourism entrepreneurs have perceived economic, socio-cultural and environmental effects of mountain tourism in Nepal.

## **8.2 Conclusions**

The foregoing discussions reveal that the trekking and mountaineering are the pioneer tourism activity in Nepal to develop and congregate with international market. Nepal has immense potentials assets of 1310 known mountain peaks distributed in all the Development Region of Nepal and also snow-capped Himalayas of different awe-some height and dimension, for the development and promotion of mountain tourism. In general and mountaineering in particular. Through these natural resources, the country can acquire large social, economic, and geographic benefit.

Despite the potentiality of high socio-economic benefits, Nepal still is not able to fully mobilize and exploit these immense natural gifts as per the expectation. There are different obstacles externally and internally molding in it. Lack of long term vision and comprehensive policy and programs, insufficient physical infrastructure along with

deficiency of other supportive things are the important measures by which, mountain tourism has not yet progressed and promoted in a desirable manner. Till now, the contribution of mountain tourism in the national economy is felt in the field of foreign exchange earning mainly. Areas like employment opportunities and royalty is nominal. Therefore, the government should pay more functional attention and initiate strong action and policies to address and flourish the significant sector like mountain tourism as soon as possible for its overall development.

### **8.3 Recommendations**

Based on the summary of the study, the following recommendations are proposed for the development of mountain tourism especially with reference to peaks permitted to Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA). NMA should make commitment for direct allocation of a certain amount of royalty out of the total royalty generated from particular peaks region to channelize for the development of local infrastructure of the particular region.

- J Provision should be made in the policy or regulation for providing certain percent of concession to the mountaineers and trekkers, who intend to climb two or more NMA peaks in the same season of the same year.
- J The heavy discount in royalty and more facility should be provide for less famous NMA peak or unclimbed Peaks.
- J The NMA peaks should also be categorized on the basis of infrastructure development as well as availability of security and communication facility. Likewise, the royalty of the NMA peaks should be fixed both on the basis of height of the peak and the facilities available there. Provision of due concession should be given to the mountaineers opting for mountaineering to the remote or unpopular NMA peaks.
- J The government has given emphasis to join remote mountain region to other big cities with air services. The domestic air services in the mountain region have not been found regular and easily accessible which have discouraged the trekkers and

mountaineers. Therefore, more flights should be organized to NMA peaks regions ensuring regularity, comfort, as well as availability of these flights.

- ) Trekking and mountaineering are seasonal. So, efforts must be made to break the high seasonality, make trekking and mountaineering as year round activity.
- ) Most of the trekkers and mountaineers complain that all the children ask for pens, balloons or sweets. It is not good because it promotes begging. This type of activity should be controlled.
- ) It should be conducted periodic cleaning operations programs at NMA peaks and main trekking trails.
- ) Gradually, introduce peaks that have not famous and popular.
- ) Consideration should give on publicity of NMA peaks in different media both national and international.
- ) Peaks specific details information should be published.
- ) The trend of over concentration on few peaks should be decentralized toward other peaks.
- ) The researcher has not studied in detail. So, the detail study on this title (NMA Permitted Peaks) should be done.

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## APPENDIX I

### Peaks managed by Nepal Mountaineering Association

S.N	Name	Height	Himal	Region
1	Abi	6097	Mahalangur	EDR
2	Bokta Peak	6143	Kanchenjunga	EDR
3	Chekigo	6257	Gaurishankar	CDR
4	Chhukung Ri	5550	Khumbu	EDR
5	Cholatse	6440	Khumbu	EDR
6	Chulu East	6584	Damodar	WDR
7	Chulu West	6419	Damodar	WDR
8	Hiunchuli	6441	Annapurna	WDR
9	Hongu	6764	Mahalangur	EDR
10	Kangja Chuli	5844	Langtang	CDR
11	Khongma Tse	5849	Khumbu	EDR
12	Kusum Kanguru	6367	Khumbu	EDR
13	Kwangde	6011	Rolwaling	EDR
14	Kyazo Ri	6186	Mahalangur	EDR
15	Langsisa Ri	6427	Jugal	CDR
16	Lemgpo Peak	6954	Kanchenjunga	EDR
17	Lobuje	6119	Khumbu	EDR
18	Lobuje West	6145	Khumbu	EDR
19	Machermo	6273	Mahalangur	EDR
20	Madri Himal	5587	Annapurna	WDR
21	Mera Peak	6654	Khumbu	EDR
22	Nirekha Peak	6159	Mahalangur	EDR
23	Ombigaichen	6340	Mahalangur	EDR
24	Paldor Peak	5896	Ganesh	CDR
25	Parchamo	6187	Rolwaling	CDR
26	Phari Lapcha	6017	Mahalangur	EDR
27	Pisang	6091	Damodar	WDR
28	Pokhalde	5806	Khumbu	EDR
29	Ramdung	5925	Rolwaling	CDR
30	Singu Chuli	6501	Annapurna	WDR
31	Tharpu Chuli	5663	Annapurna	WDR
32	Yala	5732	Langtang	CDR
33	Yubra Himal	6035	Langtang Himal	CDR

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## APPENDIX II

**Peaks opened for Nepalese expedition or joint Nepalese and foreign expedition consisting at least three Nepalese members.**

S.N	Name	Height	Himal	Region
1	Baden Powell Scout Peak (Urkema Peak)	5890	Langtang	CDR
2	Bhairab Takura (Madiya Peak)	6799	Jugal	CDR
3	Bhemdang Ri	6150	Langtang	CDR
4	Bhrikuti	6364	Damodar	WDR
5	Chamar	7187	Serang	WDR
6	Changla	6563	Changla	MWDR
7	Dorje Lhakpa	6966	Jugal	CDR
8	Ganchenpo	6387	Jugal	CDR
9	Gandharva	6248	Annapurna	WDR
10	Gurja Himal	7193	Dahaulagiri	WDR
11	Gurkarpo Ri	6891	Jugal	CDR
12	Gyachung Kang	7952	Khumbu	EDR
13	Gyalzen Peak	6151	Jugal	CDR
14	Jongsang Peak	7483	Janak	EDR
15	Karyolung	6511	Rolwalling	EDR
16	Kirat Chuli (Tent Peak)	7365	Kangchenjunga	EDR
17	Langtang Ri	7205	Langtang	CDR
18	Leonpo Gang	6979	Jugal	CDR
19	Nala Kankar	6062	Nalakankar	MWDR
20	Nepal Peak	6910	Kangchenjunga	EDR
21	Ohmi Kanga	6829	Janak	EDR

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## APPENDIX III

**Peaks opened to foreign expeditions only to be climbed by Nepalese and foreign joint Expedition.**

S.N	Name	Height	Himal	Region
1	Bobaye +	6808	Gurans/Yoka	FWDR
2	Ganesh 1 (Yangra) +	7429	Ganesh	CDR
3	Jethi Bahurani +	6850	Gurans	FWDR
4	Khang Sar Kang +	7485	Annapurna	WDR

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## APPENDIX IV

### Peaks opened for foreign expeditions

S.N	Name	Height	Himal	Region
1	Ama Dablam	6812	Khumbu	EDR
2	Amolsang	6392	Damodar	WDR
3	Amphu Gyabien	5647	Mahalangur	EDR
4	Amphu I	6840	Mahalangur	EDR
5	Anidesh Chuli	6960	Kanchenjunga	EDR
6	Annapurna 1	8091	Annapurna	WDR
7	Annapurna 2	7937	Annapurna	WDR
8	Annapurna 3	7555	Annapurna	WDR
9	Annapurna 4	7525	Annapurna	WDR
10	Annapurna South	7219	Annapurna	WDR
11	Api	7132	Gurans	FWDR
12	Api West	7100	Byas-Rikhi	FWDR
13	Arniko Chuli	6039	Damodar	WDR
14	Bamongo	6400	Gaurishankar	CDR
15	Barun Tse	7129	Barun	EDR
16	Baudha	6672	Mansiri	WDR
17	Chabuk (Tsajirip)	6960	Kanchenjunga	EDR
18	Chago	6893	Mahalangur	EDR
19	Chako	6704	Peri Himal	WDR
20	Chabuk (Tsajirip)	6960	Kanchenjunga	EDR
21	Chago	6893	Mahalangur	EDR
22	Chako	6704	Peri Himal	WDR
23	Changwatnang	6125	Chandi Himal	MWDR
24	Changwatnang	6125	Chandi Himal	MWDR
25	Cheo Himal	6820	Peri	WDR
26	Chhiv Himal	6581	Damodar	WDR
27	Chhochenphu Himal	6260	Kanchanjunga	EDR
28	Chhubohe Peak	5603	Annapurna	WDR
29	Cho Polu	6711	Mahalangur	EDR
30	Chobuje	6685	Rolwaling	CDR
31	Chota Ri	6934	Khumbu Himal	EDR
32	Cho-O-You	8201	Khumbu	EDR
33	Churen	7371	Dhaulagiri	WDR
34	Danfe Sail	6103	Kanjirowa	MWDR
35	Danga	6355	Kanchanjunga	EDR
36	Dazaney (Dzanaye Peak )	6710	Kanchanjunga	EDR
37	Dhagpahe ( Yansa Tsenji )	6567	Langtang	CDR
38	Dhampus	6012	Mukut	WDR
39	Dhaulagiri	6632	Saipal	FWDR
40	Dhaulagiri I	8167	Dhaulagiri	WDR
41	Dhaulagiri II	7751	Dhaulagiri	WDR
42	Dhaulagiri III	7715	Dhaulagiri	WDR
43	Dhaulagiri IV	7661	Dhaulagiri	WDR
44	Dhaulagiri V	7618	Dhaulagiri	WDR
45	Dhaulagiri VI	7268	Dhaulagiri	WDR
46	Dingjung Ri	6249	Gaurishankar	CDR
47	Dogari Himal	6536	Dhaulagiri	WDR
48	Domekhan	7264	Kanchanjunga	EDR
49	Dragmorpa Ri ( Panaya Tippa )	6185	Langtang	CDR
50	Drahmo	6855	Kanchenjunga	EDR
51	Dranganag Ri	6801	Rolwaling	CDR
52	Ek Rate Dada	6312	Makalu	EDR
53	Fimkof	6697	Saipal	FWDR
54	Fimkof West	6645	Saipal	FWDR

55	Gajang	6111	Damodar	EDR
56	Ganesh II	7111	Ganesh	CDR
57	Ganesh III (Salasungo)	7110	Ganesh	CDR
58	Ganesh IV (Pabil)	7052	Ganesh	CDR
59	Ganesh V	6986	Ganesh	CDR
60	Ganesh VI	6480	Ganesh	WDR
61	Gangapurna	7455	Annapurna	WDR
62	Gaugiri	6110	Damodar	WDR
63	Gauri Shanker	7134	Rolwaling	CDR
64	Ghenye Liru	6571	Langtang	CDR
65	Ghhanyala Hies	6779	Kanchenjunga	EDR
66	Ghustung North	6529	Dhaulagiri	WDR
67	Ghustong South	6465	Dhaulagiri	WDR
68	Gimigela Chuli	7350	Kanchenjunga	EDR
69	Gokyori	5450	Khumbu	EDR
70	Gorkha Himal	6092	Mahalangur	EDR
71	Gyajikang	7038	Peri	WDR
72	Gyajinkang	7038	Namjung Peri Himal	WDR
73	Himachuli West	7540	Mansiri	WDR
74	Himalchuli E.	7893	Mansiri	WDR
75	Himalchuli N.	7371	Mansiri	WDR
76	Himjung	7140	Peri	WDR
77	Himlung Himal	7126	Peri	WDR
78	Hongde	6556	Damodar	WDR
79	Hongde	6556	Mukut	WDR
80	Hunchi	7036	Mahalangur	EDR
81	Hunku	6119	Mahalangur	EDR
82	Imja Tse (Island Peak)	6183	Khumbu	EDR
83	Jagdula Peak	5764	Jagdula	MWDR
84	Janak	7090	Kanchenjunga	EDR
85	Jobo Rinjang	6666	Mahalangur	EDR
86	Jomsom Himal	6581	Damodar	WDR
87	Kabru	7318	Kanchanjunga	EDR
88	Kagmara	5960	Kanjiroba	MWDR
89	Kalo Parbat	5419	Mukut Himal	WDR
90	Kambong Peak	6570	Dhaulagiri	WDR
91	Kanchenjunga (Main)	8586	Kanchenjunga	EDR
92	Kanchenjunga (Sough)	8476	Kanchenjunga	EDR
93	Kanchenujunga	8476	Kanchenjunga	EDR
94	Kande Hiunchuli	6627	Patrasi	MWDR
95	Kang Guru	6981	Peri	WDR
96	Kang Kuru	6320	Damodar	WDR
97	Kang Nagchugo	6735	Gaurishankar	CDR
98	Kangbachen	7903	Kanchenjunga	EDR
99	Kangfu Gaton Kanta Gaton	5916	Kanjirowa	MWDR
100	Kangtega (Kantega)	6779	Khumbu	EDR
101	Kangtokla	6294	Kanjiroba	MWDR
102	Kanjerawa	6612	Kanjiroba	MWDR
103	Kanjiroba (Mainpeak)	6883	Kanjiroba	MWDR
104	Kanti Himal	6859	Kanti	MWDR
105	Kaptang	5965	Kanti Himal	MWDR
106	Khangri Shar	6811	Mahalangur	EDR
107	Khangri West	6773	Mahalangur	EDR
108	Khatang	6582	Rolwaling	EDR
109	Khatung Kang	6484	Patrung Himal	WDR
110	Khayan	6186	Mansiri	WDR
111	Khiurikala	5806	Saipal	FWDR
112	Khumjung	6699	Damodar	WDR
113	Kojichwa Chuli	6439	Kanti Himal	MWDR

114	Kokthang	6148	Kanchanjunga	EDR
115	Korko	6053	Saipal	FWDR
116	Kumbatse	6639	Mahalangur	EDR
117	Kumbhakarna (Jannu)	7710	Kanchenjunga	EDR
118	Kyabura	6332	Kanchenjunga	EDR
119	Kyashar	6770	Mahalangur- Makalu	EDR
120	Kyungya Ri 1	6599	Langtang	CDR
121	Kyungya Ri 2	6506	Langtang	CDR
122	Lachama Chuli	6721	Changla Himal	MWDR
123	Lahung Kang	6786	Kanchanjunga	EDR
124	Lamjung Himal	6983	Annapurna	WDR
125	Lang Chung Kang	6475	Kanchenjunga	EDR
126	Langmoche Ri	6617	Mahalangur	EDR
127	Langtang Lirung	7234	Langtang	CDR
128	Lanpo Peak	6965	Kanchenjunga	EDR
129	Larkya Peak	6010	Manaslu	WDR
130	Lhayul Peak	6397	Api Himal	MWDR
131	Lhotse	8516	Khumbu	EDR
132	Lhotse Middle	8413	Mahalangur	EDR
133	Lhotse Shar	8400	Khumbu	EDR
134	Linku Chuli1 ( Pig Pherago Shar )	6719	Mahalangur	EDR
135	Linku Chuli2 ( Pig Pherago Nup )	6659	Mahalangur	EDR
136	Lintren	6713	Mahalangur	EDR
137	Loshar I	6930	Kanchenjunga	EDR
138	Loshar II	6860	Kanchenjunga	EDR
139	Lumba Sumba	5670	Kanchenjunga	EDR
140	Lumba Sumba Peak	5672	Lumbasumba	EDR
141	Lung Sampa	6100	Mahalangur	EDR
142	Luza Peak	5726	Mahalangur	EDR
143	Makalu I	8463	Mahalangur	EDR
144	Makalu II (Kangchugtse)	7678	Mahalangur	EDR
145	Manapathi	6380	Dhaulagiri	WDR
146	Manaslu	8163	Mansiri	WDR
147	Manaslu North	7157	Mansiri	WDR
148	Mariyang	6528	Kanjiroba	MWDR
149	MDM Peak	6270	Kanchenjunga	EDR
150	Mera South	6064	Mahalangur	EDR
151	Merra	6335	Kanchenjunga	EDR
152	Mojka Peak	6032	Kanchenjunga	EDR
153	Nagpai Gosum I	7312	Mahalangur	EDR
154	Nagpai Gosum II	7296	Mahalangur	EDR
155	Nagpai Gosum III	7110	Mahalangur	EDR
156	Nampa	6755	Gurans	FWDR
157	Nampa II	6700	Gurans	FWDR
158	Nampa III	6618	Gurans	FWDR
159	Nampa, South	6580	Byas-Rikhi	FWDR
160	Nangamari 1	6547	Kanchanjunga	EDR
161	Nangamari 2	6205	Kanchanjunga	EDR
162	Nar Phu	5748	Peri	WDR
163	Naulekh	6240	Mahalangur	EDR
164	Nemjung	7139	Manang	WDR
165	Ngadi Chuli (Peak 29Dakura)	7871	Mansiri	WDR
166	Ngojumbakangvv	7743	Khumbu	EDR
167	Nheserku	5927	Mahalangur	EDR
168	Nilgiri Central	6940	Nilgiri	WDR
169	Nilgiri North	7061	Nilgiri	WDR
170	Nilgiri South	6839	Nilgiri	WDR
171	Norbu Kang	6005	Kanjirowa	MWDR
172	Numbur	6957	Rolwaling	EDR

173	Numri	6677	Mahalangur	EDR
174	Nuptse	7855	Khumbu	EDR
175	P2	6251	Manaslu Himal	WDR
176	Pabuk Kang (Kangata )	6244	Kanchanjunga	EDR
177	Panalotapa	6687	Mahalangur	EDR
178	Panbari	6887	Peri	WDR
179	Panbuk Ri	6716	Mahalangur	EDR
180	Pandra	6850	Kanchanjunga	EDR
181	Panpoche 1 ( Pang Phunch )	6620	Mansiri	WDR
182	Panpoche 2 ( Pang Phunch )	6504	Mansiri	WDR
183	Pasang Lhamu	7351	Mahalangur	EDR
184	Pashuwo	6177	Langtang	CDR
185	Pathivara Chuli	7125	Kanchenjunga	EDR
186	Patrasi	6450	Patrasi	MWDR
187	Peak 38	7590	Mahalangur	EDR
188	Peak 4	6736	Mahalangur/Makalu	EDR
189	Peak 41	6649	Mahalangur	EDR
190	Peak 43	6779	Mahalangur	EDR
191	Pethangtse	6710	Mahalangur	EDR
192	Phole	6645	Kanchenjunga	EDR
193	Phu Kang	6694	Peri Himal	WDR
194	Phungi	6538	Mansiri	WDR
195	Phurbi Chyachu	6631	Jugal	CDR
196	Pokharkhan	6348	Damodar	WDR
197	Pokharkan	6346	Damodar	WDR
198	Putkhang	6120	Damodar	WDR
199	Pumori	7161	Khumbu	EDR
200	Punchen Himal	6049	Mansiri	WDR
201	Putha Hiunchuli	7246	Dhaulagiri	WDR
202	Putrung	6466	Damodar	WDR
203	Raksha Urai	6593	Urai Lekh	FWDR
204	Ramchaur	4500	Kanchenjunga	EDR
205	Ramdrong	4499	Lamjung	WDR
206	Ramtang	6601	Kanchenjunga	EDR
207	Rantang Chang	6750	Kanchenjunga	EDR
208	Ratna Chuli	7128	Peri	WDR
209	Rokapi	5467	Saipal	FWDR
210	Roma	5407	Saipal	FWDR
211	Rothong	6682	Kanchanjunga	EDR
212	Sagarmatha	8848	Khumbu	EDR
213	Saipal	7031	Gurans/Saipal	FWDR
214	Saipal, East	6882	Saipal	FWDR
215	Salbachum	6707	Langtang	CDR
216	Saldim (Peak 5 )	6374	Mahalangur/Makalu	EDR
217	Samdo Peak	6335	Mansiri	WDR
218	Saribung	6346	Damodar	WDR
219	Sat Peak	6220	Kanchanjunga	EDR
220	Shantishikhar	7591	Mahalangur	EDR
221	Sharphu I	7070	Kanchenjunga	EDR
222	Sharphu II	6154	Kanchenjunga	EDR
223	Sharphu III	6885	Kanchenjunga	EDR
224	Sharphu IV	6433	Kanchenjunga	EDR
225	Sharphu V	6328	Kanchenjunga	EDR
226	Sharphu VI	6076	Kanchenjunga	EDR
227	Shartse	7459	Khumbu	EDR
228	Sherson ( Peak 3 )	6422	Mahalangur/makalu	EDR
229	Shey Shikhar	6139	Kanjiroba	MWDR
230	Sisne	5849	Sisne	MWDR
231	Sita Chuchura	6611	Dhaulagiri	WDR

232	Sobitongie	6670	Kanchenjunga	EDR
233	Surma-Sarovar, North	6523	Surma Saravar Lekh	FWDR
234	Swaksa Kang	6405	Kanjiroba	MWDR
235	Swelokhan	6180	Mansiri	MWDR
236	Suyaokang	5960	Kanchenjunga	EDR
237	Takargo	6771	Mahalangur	EDR
238	Takphu Himal	6395	Nalakankar	MWDR
239	Talung	7349	Kanchenjunga	EDR
240	Taple Sikhar (Cross Peak)	6341	Kanchenjunga	EDR
241	Tarek Kang	7193	Annapurna	WDR
242	Tashi Kang	6386	Mukut Himal	EDR
243	Tawoche	6501	Khumbu	EDR
244	Tengi Ragi Tau	6948	Mahalangur	EDR
245	Tengkangpoche	6500	Mahalangur	EDR
246	Tengkoma	6215	Kanchenjunga	EDR
247	Thamserku	6623	Khumbu	EDR
248	Thapa Peak	6012	Dhaulagiri	WDR
249	Thorang Peak	5751	Annapurna	WDR
250	Thulagi Peak	7059	Mansiri	WDR
251	Tilicho Peak	7134	Annapurna	WDR
252	Tilje	5697	Peri	WDR
253	Tilkang	6369	Nalakankar	MWDR
254	Tobsar Peak	6100	Siringi Himal	WDR
255	Tripura Hiunchuli(Hanging Glacier Peak)	6563	Kanjiroba	MWDR
256	Tsartse	6398	Mukut Himal	WDR
257	Tso Karop Kang	6556	Kanjibora	MWDR
258	Tso Karpo	6518	Kanjiroba	MWDR
259	Tukuche Peak	6920	Dhaulagiri	WDR
260	Tutse ( Peak 6 )	6758	Mahalangur/Makalu	EDR
261	Urknmang	6151	Jugal	CDR
262	Varaha Shikhar (Fang)	7647	Annapurna	WDR
263	White Wave	5809	Kanchenjunga	EDR
264	Yakawa Kang	6482	Damodar	WDR
265	Yalung Kang	8505	Kanchenjunga	EDR
266	Yanme Kang	6206	Kanchenjunga	EDR
267	Yaupa	6432	Mahalangur/Makalu	EDR
268	Yokopahar (Nampa VIII)	6401	Gurans	FWDR

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**APPENDIX V**

**Questionnaire for Trekker and Mountaineers**

1. Nationality: .....
2. Sex:                      Male                       Female
3. What's your age?  
Below 30 years                                            30-40                        
Over 40
4. Marital Status: Married                       Unmarried
5. What is your education?  
School education                        
Under graduate                        
Post graduate                        
Doctoral                        
Any other
6. Have you been in Nepal before?  
Yes                       No
7. What's your occupation? .....
8. How many times did you visit Nepal?  
First Time                       6-7 times                        
2-3 times                                            8 times or more                        
4-5 times
- 9) Did you visit other countries on this journey?  
Yes                       No

If yes, country .....

- 10) Before your trip to Nepal, how did you perceived Nepal as:
- a. The country of Mount Everest
  - b. The birth place of Lord Buddha
  - c. The land of Brave Gorkha's
  - d. The land of scenic beauty
  - e. The land of Sherpas
  - f. A Himalayan country
  - g. All of the above
  - h. Others .....
- 11) What is your average expenditure in trekking routes per day in dollar?
- a) NRs. (1000-1500)
  - b) NRs. (1500-2000)
  - c) NRs. (2000-2500)
  - d) NRs. (2500-3000)
  - e) NRs. (3000-3500)
  - f) More than 350
- 12) Howmuch money did you plan to spend in this journey? NRs. ....
- 14) How much percentage of total spenditure (money) did you plan to spend on following title?
- a) Transport .....%
  - b) Food .....%
  - c) Recreaion .....%
  - d) Residence .....%
  - e) Ryalty .....%
  - f) Equipment fare .....%
  - g) Oters .....%
13. Did you see any publicity materials relating to tourism published by Government of Nepal, Nepal Embassy and Travel/Trekking agencies?
- Yes  No

14. What are the main sources of information that influenced your decision to come to Nepal?

(Tick as many as appropriate)

- |                          |                          |                    |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Friends/relatives        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tourist Office     | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Travel/Trekking agencies | <input type="checkbox"/> | Tourist Guide Book | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Newspaper                | <input type="checkbox"/> | Business Linkage   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Magazine                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Trade show/fairs   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Television               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Airlines           | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other .....              |                          |                    |                          |

15. How long do you stay in Nepal? .....

16. Which peak are you going to climb? .....

17. What was your fascination for this peak?

.....

18. How do you rate the tourism marketing of Nepal?

- |                   |                          |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Very good         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Good              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Satisfactory      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Needs improvement | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Very poor         | <input type="checkbox"/> |

19. Do you think any economic impact of mountain tourism on the inhabitants of mountain people?

Yes  No

If the answer is yes. What kind of impacts do you think?

(Tick as many as appropriate)

Employment opportunities

Tax income

Foreign exchange

Souvenirs

Improved Standard of Living

Business opportunity

Development of infrastructure

Other .....

20. Are you satisfied with the present royalty of government regarding trekking/mountaineering

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

If you are unsatisfied, give comments.....

21. Could you please, specify the quality of manpower involved in the tourism industry of Nepal?

Well trained

Not so well trained

22. Are you worried when you are here?

Yes

No

If yes, why?

a) Terrorism/violence

b) Pollution

c) Inadequate infrastructure

d) Service quality

e) Others .....

23. Do you expect to visit Nepal again?

Yes

No

24. Would you like to extend some suggestions to improve mountain tourism development in Nepal?

.....

.....

25. Do you think any environmental impact of mountain tourism in Nepal?

If answer is yes, what kind of impact do you think?

(Tick as many as appropriate)

Degradation of scenic appeal

Measures of hold pollution

Erosion of trekking trails/bridges

Garbage/pollution

Maintenance of scenic landscape

Deforestation/destruction of fauna

Cleanliness

Congestion/over burdening

Better area protection

Lack of toilet/camp site

Others.....

26. What should we do to manage the garbage management system in mountain region? Please rank as 1, 2,3,4,5 as per priority.

26.1. Strong law and their effective implementation

	Low				High
Rank	1	2	3	4	5

26.2. Participation of Local Community.

	Low				High
Rank	1	2	3	4	5

26.3. Participation of NGO/INGO and private organizations.

	Low				High
Rank	1	2	3	4	5

26.4 increase more deposit fee for garbage management.

	Low				High
Rank	1	2	3	4	5

26.5. Public awareness.

	Low				High
Rank	1	2	3	4	5

**Thank**