

Tourism in Sikkim: Quest for A Self-Reliant Economy

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Introduction

In the last two and half decades, Sikkim's economy at macro level is growing at a steady rate. Real average growth rate from 2000-01 to 2006-07 stands at 7.8 per cent, which apparently looks very impressive. The contribution of primary sector towards Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) is continuously falling while that of services is increasing. This trend resembles development pattern experienced by the so-called developed countries. However, a close look at real growth figures reveals that growth is more pronounced in the sectors where government is playing a direct role. The phenomenal growth of public administration and other services do suggest that government remains the sole provider of jobs in the State. However, a reversal of the trend is becoming prominent. Since 1996-97 the growth rate of trade, hotels and restaurants has started picking up and is growing consistently. In addition to this, trade and commerce, banking and insurance are also growing very satisfactorily. From 2000-01, transport and communication have also been consistently growing. This may be portrayed as the beginning of the end of government-sponsored growth story and rapid expansion of tourism activities may be viewed as one of the prime contributors towards this positive turn around in sustaining overall growth of the State's economy.

Pattern of Economic Development in Sikkim after 1975

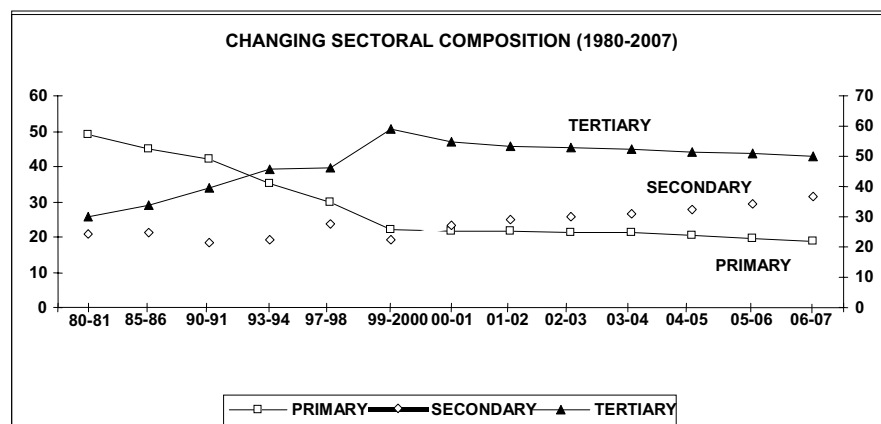
After becoming the 22nd state of India in 1975, serious efforts were made in Sikkim to create new avenues for livelihood outside agriculture without disturbing the rural fabric of the region. The most visible efforts were on the expansion of education and health care with the establishment of schools and hospitals across the State (Sankritayana

1991). According to 2001 census (provisional), the literacy rate of Sikkim stands at 69.98 per cent (76.73 per cent for males and 61.46 per cent for females). This represents a sharp rise against the 1981 figures of 34.05 per cent overall literacy rates (43.95 per cent for males and 22.20 per cent for females). Progress in this respect has been achieved by spending a large part of the central grant to the State in the social sector. Creation of vast amount of human capital has been achieved within a short span of time.

Sector wise distribution reveals that primary sector, which is mainly propelled by agriculture and allied activities, has shown impressive growth from 1981-82 to 1984-85, after which it was little sluggish, but it is maintaining a healthy growth rate from 1995-96 to 2006-07 (Tables 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3). In the secondary sector, the growth is mainly propelled by construction activities. The manufacturing sector, which is supposed to be the backbone of this sector, has registered a very poor performance (Chakrabarti 2006). Since 1993-94, its growth rate is continuously falling and in 1997-98, it came down to mere 0.2 per cent. However, since 1999-2000, the growth rate in manufacturing is slowly picking up. Investment climate has become relatively favourable, especially in the sector of tourism and hydel power generation (Tables 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3). The tertiary sector, since 1984-85, is growing at a satisfactory rate. Good performance of tertiary sector or services is mainly guided by the growth of public administration and other services.

The economic growth rate of transport, communication, real estate, legal and business services has slowed down considerably in the late 90s. In 1996-97 and thereafter trade, hotels and restaurant have shown an upsurge in the growth rate. From 2000 onwards banking and insurance sectors have also achieved a healthy growth. Again, the growth rate of public administration and other services has slowed down since 1999-2000 in comparison to 1980s, and this indicates that rate of expansion of government services is gradually getting saturated (Tables 1.1, 1.2 & 1.3).

Figure 1. Changing Share of Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Sectors (1980-81 - 2006-07)



Thus the dynamics of growth reveals a few discerning features in the state. Growth is more pronounced in the sectors where government is playing a direct role. In the secondary sector, it is the construction, where government plays a direct role, which has become the driving force. In fact, employment in the sense of regular jobs has primarily meant employment in the offices of the state government or in the state enterprises. The number of state government regular employees stands at 25,000 and over 10,000 are working as muster roll employees. These two together constitute around 16.5 percent of total main workers. The government has to spend 35 per cent of GSDP annually to pay the salary and allowances to its employees. It is pointed out in the Vision Document that the government is grossly over-staffed and most of the public enterprises are running at loss. Out of 11 public enterprises in the State 4 have been recommended for closure (Lahiri *et al* 2001). On the contrary, poor growth of manufacturing sector shows absence of the private sector. The phenomenal growth of public administration and other services do suggest that government remains the sole provider of job in the State. Poor growth rate of transport, communication, trade and commerce, banking and insurance, real estate etc. has been reducing the scope of participation of entrepreneurs in the private sector (Chakrabarti 2008). So, as the State's Tenth Plan has rightly recognized that there is very little room for further employment generation in government or government enterprises. It is estimated that Sikkim needs to generate about 6500 jobs per annum in order to tackle the unemployment problem on a sustained basis. This can be achieved

through a policy mix that will generate 2000 jobs each in agriculture and service sectors, 1000 in animal husbandry and 1500 in the industrial sector.

Keeping in mind the above scenario, a reversal of the trend is appearing prominent. As a matter of fact, since 1996-97 the growth rate of trade, hotels and restaurant has started picking up and is growing consistently. In addition to this, trade and commerce, banking and insurance are also growing very satisfactorily. From 2000-01, transport and communication have also been consistently growing. This may be portrayed as the beginning of the end of government sponsored growth story and rapid expansion of tourism activities may be viewed as one of the prime contributors towards this positive turn around in sustaining overall growth of the economy (Chakrabarti 2007).

Let us now see the status of tourism in the State of Sikkim to be able to critically review whether tourism is propelling the growth of economy in Sikkim and how far this sector will be successful in propelling growth of the economy, employment and income (urban and rural) in future.

Table 1.1. Growth of GSDP at Constant Price (%) by Industry (1980-81 to 1992-93)

Industry/Year	81-82	82-83	83-84	84-85	85-86	86-87	87-88	88-89	89-90	90-91	91-92	92-93
Agriculture & Allied	11.1	14.6	-1.3	16.1	-2.0	2.7	46.3	4.6	5.1	3.8	1.0	-9.9
Forestry & Logging	-1.9	93.2	37.3	-34.7	3.4	16.6	21.9	-62.1	-46.5	128.4	40.4	10.6
Fishing	6.9	125.4	-22.8	33.5	837.9	-90.1	-5.3	10.7	7.1	9.6	6.4	1.4
Mining & Quarrying	34.8	-61.1	44.2	-1.9	36.8	-60.6	-29	859.3	7.1	-49.4	33.0	-5.3
Total Primary	11.0	15.1	-0.5	14.8	-1.8	2.7	45.7	4.2	4.9	3.8	1.3	-9.7
Manufacturing	25.4	4.0	12.6	8.1	3.5	9.0	27.2	22.2	15.6	-26.0	5.1	8.1
Construction	-6.8	9.5	3.4	3.2	32.5	73.5	-13.7	4.5	9.3	2.8	8.1	8.2
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	-15.4	-189.0	202.1	34.0	-6.5	-8.6	-14.7	-197.1	-304.2	-120.1	325.5	-57.7
Total Secondary	2.9	11.3	9.5	6.1	20.3	50.7	-4.8	5.1	17.9	-11.1	4.7	10.3
Transport & Communication	31.9	11.9	2.2	8.5	125.7	-0.1	68.9	6.5	15.7	11.3	42.8	6.5
Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	5.8	6.4	3.7	5.7	21.3	44.3	5.4	15.3	13.0	78.6	9.4	8.1
Banking & Insurance	-39.2	-15.5	11.9	69.1	62.5	12.1	28.1	50.4	18.2	24.0	4.5	4.2
Real Estate, Legal & Business Services	1.04	10.4	10.8	10.9	11.5	11.6	11.7	12.2	-23.4	14.5	14.8	11.8
Public Administration	1.8	17.5	-14.5	35.0	6.3	13.5	7.6	25.0	1.9	25.1	13.6	4.9
Other Services	2.6	2.8	32.3	19.7	22.4	19.0	-24.6	54.5	9.0	18.9	5.0	13.2
Total Tertiary	4.2	9.3	4.8	19.9	21.1	18.5	5.4	25.2	3.3	32.0	12.5	8.2
GSDP	6.8	12.7	2.9	14.4	9.4	18.2	18.4	10.6	7.0	9.6	6.3	1.4

Source: Calculated from GSDP data at constant prices, State Domestic Product of Sikkim, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Planning and Development Department, Govt. of Sikkim.

Table 1.2. Growth of GSDP at Constant Price (%) by Industry (1993-94 to 1997-98)

Industry/Year	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98
Agriculture & Allied	-4.9	7.9	10.4	4.5
Forestry & Logging	3.7	4.0	4.0	6.3
Fishing	-1.5	44.6	-2.1	-24.0
Mining & Quarrying	-17.2	15.9	-24.3	-77.2
Total Primary	-4.4	7.8	9.7	4.2
Manufacturing	1.1	1.4	2.0	0.2
Construction	-7.4	41.6	11.2	44.9
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	2.9	17.7	12.1	4.2
Total Secondary	-3.6	26.0	9.2	29.1
Transport & Communication	16.7	-8.9	43.3	-1.5
Trade, Hotels & Restaurant	2.1	3.5	7.5	7.9
Banking & Insurance	6.5	31.7	1.5	24.6
Real Estate, Legal & Business Services	2.4	2.6	3.7	1.5
Public Administration	-7.7	10.3	3.4	28.2
Other Services	6.7	9.2	26.0	16.3
Total Tertiary	1.6	6.5	12.8	14.0
GSDP	-1.5	10.6	10.9	13.9

Source: Calculated from GSDP data at constant prices, State Domestic Product of Sikkim, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Planning and Development Department, Govt. of Sikkim.

Table 1.3. Growth of GSDP at Constant Price (%) by Industry (2000-01 to 2006-07)

Industry/Year	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
Agriculture	6.9	7.4	6.6	8.2	5.5	5.2	5.6
Forestry & Logging	0.9	2.1	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	-0.1
Fishing	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Agriculture & Allied	6.5	7.0	6.2	7.8	5.2	5.0	5.3
Mining & Quarrying	1.8	7.0	3.3	7.9	8.0	3.4	3.3
Total Primary	6.5	7.0	6.1	7.8	5.2	4.9	5.3
Manufacturing-Regd	4.9	2.1	4.3	6.1	7.4	7.3	6.9
Manufacturing-Unregd	4.4	0.2	4.1	7.3	6.2	9.2	8.2
Manufacturing	4.6	1.0	4.2	6.8	6.6	8.5	7.7

Table 1.3 contd on page 94

Table 1.3 contd from page 93

Construction	13.2	28.6	19.1	13.3	14.2	15.5	16.0
Electricity, Gas & Water Supply	88.6	3.8	-4.0	2.4	5.6	5.1	4.6
Total Secondary	29.9	15.3	9.5	9.4	10.9	12.0	12.3
Transport & Communication	5.8	6.9	11.2	15.2	14.1	12.0	11.3
Trade, Hotels & Restaurant	6.5	7.0	7.1	5.3	5.6	5.4	5.4
Banking & Insurance	21.3	14.3	14.3	14.3	13.1	8.4	8.4
Real Estate, Legal & Business Services	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4	3.5
Public Administration	-2.4	6.0	7.3	8.2	8.9	8.8	9.0
Other Services	-2.1	3.2	5.7	5.7	5.5	6.3	6.3
Total Tertiary	0.8	5.2	6.7	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.2
SDP	7.6	7.9	7.3	7.8	7.8	8.0	8.2
Per Capita Income	4.0	4.0	6.7	6.3	6.5	6.5	6.7

Source: Calculated from GSDP data at constant prices, State Domestic Product of Sikkim, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Planning and Development Department, Govt. of Sikkim & <http://www.mospi.nic.in>

Status of Tourism in Sikkim

The World Tourism Organisation defines visitors as 'any person travelling to a place *other than that of his/her usual environment* for less than 12 months and whose main purpose of the trip is other than the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited' (UN/WTO 2002-03, emphasis in original).

Over the past 20 years, tourism has emerged as one of the world's largest industries and has been growing at a rate more than 5 percent per annum. The flow of tourists across the globe has reached 698 million in the year 2000 while receipts from tourists reached US\$ 595 billion (including receipts from international transport fares). The World Tourism Organization's estimates also reveal that global domestic tourism flows are at least ten times greater than international tourism. Tourism accounts for 11 per cent of the global GDP and 8 per cent of the world trade and employment (Table 1.4). For most of the populous countries of the world, domestic tourism acts as foundation of a viable and sustainable tourism industry. It also tends to focus increasingly on rural destinations. With a growing interest in the cultural pattern of different countries (i.e., lifestyles, cuisine, ceremonies, music, religious beliefs, traditions, customs, and history), there is a strong potential to encourage international tourism in the rural areas as well.

As far as India is concerned, its share of global international tourism is quite meagre and accounts for about 0.38 percent and earns about 0.69 per cent (in terms of US\$) of total global receipts from tourism. On the other hand, India's share of global domestic tourism is much higher and around 4.6 percent of estimated global domestic tourism. In contrast, India's neighbours in South and Southeast Asia have more effectively utilized tourism for economic growth and employment creation (20 Years Perspective Plan for Sustainable Tourism Development in the State of Sikkim, 2002).

Table 1.4. Economic Indicators of World Tourism

Share of World	% of Total
GDP	11.0
Employment	8.0
Export	7.9
Capital Investment	9.4

Source: Ministry of Tourism, Govt. of India, 2002.

Absence of a systematic framework for analysing the sector and inadequacy of data related to tourism are some common impediments for framing a proper tourism policy in India. While statistics related to international visitors have periodically been collected, data on domestic tourists have been generated in *ad hoc* manner, and is mostly done by non-government agencies. Unlike the typical sectors defined in the System of National Accounts, the "tourism sector" comprises a mixture of many different traditional sectors, from transport to accommodation, to food, and so on. Since tourism is primarily demand defined and driven, "tourism sector" includes all goods and services demanded by visitors. Substantial advances in methodology have been made recently in the adoption in 2000 by the United Nations Statistical Commission of the framework of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) (Domestic Tourism Survey, NCAER, 2002-03). However the use of it is extremely scanty and hardly any State governments in India are using it to provide systemic data on tourism. Sikkim is no exception. Therefore, paucity of data acts as impediment to make a plausible argument in favour of tourism development in Sikkim and its contribution towards economic development of the State.

Sikkim is endowed with tremendous natural beauty with lush green valleys to snow-capped mountains. The state expanding from sub-tropical zone to alpine desert houses extremely rich biological diversity comparable

with some of the richest regions on earth. Equally interesting are the ethno-cultural diversity within this small Himalayan state.

The State has 28 mountain peaks, 21 glaciers, 227 high altitude lakes, including the Tsangmo Lake and Khechepuri Lake, 5 hot springs, and over 100 rivers and streams. Eight mountain passes connect the state to Tibet, Bhutan and Nepal. The river Teesta flows through the state from north to south (Sikkim Statistical Profile, 2004-05). As a natural corollary, Sikkim is gradually strengthening its place in the national and international tourism map as a hot spot for scenic beauty, and an ideal place for adventure tourism, ecotourism and spiritual tourism (Chakrabarti 2001).

Tourists Inflow in Sikkim

In last five years, tourism in the state has come up in a big way. Tourism is a human resource based activity; its expansion will not only create employment, but also give a fillip to other sectors like transport, telecommunication and retail selling. The number of tourists, both domestic and foreign, is continuously increasing. Between 1981 and 2006, the compound annual rate of growth for tourists is calculated to be 11.37 per cent. For the same period domestic and foreign tourists grew at an annual compound rate of 11.68 per cent and 8.28 per cent respectively. It needs to be mentioned that between 1997 and 2001, there was an overall slowing down in tourists' arrival, and tourism was mostly domestic in nature. In fact, between 1997 and 2001, the number of foreign tourists decreased and the inflow of foreign tourists registered a negative growth. The growth of domestic tourists had registered an all time low (Figures 2 & 3). It can safely be said that from 2001 onwards, tourism, especially tourist inflow, has picked up in Sikkim.

Now if the variables like transport and communication, trade, hotels and restaurants, and banking and insurance are considered as proxy for the growth of tourism, then the contribution of these sectors to GSDP will partly explain the contribution of tourism towards revenue generation in the state. A close look at Table 1.5 reveals that average contribution of these three sectors account for 11.4 per cent of GSDP (from 1980-81 to 2006-07) and trade, hotels and restaurants have remained the highest contributor with an average contribution of 6 percent. Transport and communication, and banking and insurance in average are contributing 2.9 per cent and 2.3 per cent respectively (Table 1.5).

Role of Sikkim Government in Promoting Tourism

To formulate a tourism policy for the country as a whole India took 35 years after independence and the first ever tourism policy was announced by the Government of India in November 1982. The Government of India took another ten years to formulate the National Action Plan for Tourism which was announced in May 1992. The Planning Commission recognized tourism as an industry by June 1982. At the beginning of the Eighth Plan (1992-97), 15 States and 3 Union Territories had declared tourism as an industry. Sikkim declared tourism as an industry during the 10th Five Year plan (2002-07). In addition, development of basic infrastructure, handloom & handicrafts, human resources etc. have been put on the priority list. The Rangpo-Gangtok, Melli-Jorethang and Jorethang-Reshi roads were declared as industrial corridors whereby land would be acquired by the government and leased out on a long term basis to the investors. The strategy in the 10th Five Year Plan for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme was to identify the various tourism projects like Tourism Information Centres, tourist lodge, *yatri niwas*, public conveniences, wayside amenities, trekking trails, water sports activities, publicity brochure, adventure sports equipment, tourist circuits, etc to meet the requirements and needs of tourists. Existing attraction centres will be provided with upgraded facilities on phased manner over the five-year period duly prioritizing the schemes requiring immediate upgradation based on tourist flow to destinations.

In addition to that many studies to assess feasibility and prepare perspective plan were commissioned by the State of Sikkim. The Tata Economic Consultancy Services had prepared the Tourism Master Plan and Policy document for the period 1997-2011 for the State of Sikkim in 1997 where short, medium and long term strategies were formulated for district wise tourism development in the State. In 2002, the Horizon Industrial Consultancy Services had prepared a 20-Year Perspective Plan for Sustainable Development in Sikkim under the aegis of the Ministry of Tourism and Culture, Government of India. The same organisation was also entrusted to prepare Sikkim Tourism Vision 2020 and set the following targets:

1. To increase earnings from tourism at least at the rate of 10 per cent per annum.
2. To achieve an annual growth rate of 10 per cent in foreign tourist arrivals during the period 2002-12 and 15 per cent during the subsequent period of the perspective plan.

3. To create employment opportunities for 1500 persons per annum.
4. To add 200 quality accommodation spread over in the four districts of the state except Gangtok, and
5. To innovate and promote at least one new tourism product (eco/adventure tourism) and new destination every year.

The Sikkim Tourism Development Corporation has also commissioned a Master Plan for Trekking in Sikkim.

The Forest Department of Sikkim has initiated some projects like the Bird Park (including Walk Through Aviary) at Rabdentse, West Sikkim; Butterfly Park at Rangrang, North Sikkim; Himalayan Zoological Park (Including Night Safari/Nocturnal House) at Gangtok, East Sikkim. The department has introduced on bans grazing, cutting of trees, use of plastics, smoking etc. in the forest areas. It also has taken up awareness and capacity building programmes for the local communities who are settled at the vicinity of the National Park.

Of late many NGOs in Sikkim are working towards promoting ecotourism and village tourism in various remote places in Sikkim and it is also partially helping rural people to take up tourism-related activities as better alternative to agriculture. This is in connivance with changing global tourism scenario which has undergone a major transformation over the past 30 years. In 1980s the focus shifted from “beach tourism” to “cultural tourism”, which involves visits to historical sites and cultural spots. Then the focus shifted to “ecotourism”. Due to consistent efforts of environmentalists coupled with growing concern of various stakeholders in tourism development, including NGOs, the emphasis is being gradually shifted to eco-tourism particularly because of its relevance and imperative need for protecting fragile character of the environment in its specific stations like mountains and hills. This scenario is rightly pronounced in the case of Sikkim that bears a fragile ecology.

Classification of Tourists (Domestic and International) by Place of Origin

An important feature of tourism in Sikkim is that it mostly caters to domestic tourists most of whom are budget tourists. A survey conducted by the State Department of Tourism reveals that about 61 percent of these domestic tourists hail from West Bengal, 16 per cent from the Northern States and 11 per cent from the Western States. The average sojourn of domestic tourists varies from 1 to 3 days and only around 4 per cent of

them stay for more than a week. As regards international tourists, 14 per cent come from UK, 13 per cent from Germany, 10 per cent from France, 9 per cent from USA, 5.5 per cent from Japan and rest from other countries. In terms of spread of tourism across the State, it has been observed that among the four districts, tourists spend maximum number of days in East district, especially in and around Gangtok, the capital of the State. In terms of average stay West district comes next to East District. The third and fourth places are respectively held by North and South District (Trekking Master Plan for Sikkim, 2000). Sightseeing and visits to snow covered areas have remained priorities for majority of domestic tourists. A very small section of tourists venture into remote places of Sikkim and they are mostly trekkers and mountaineers. It has also been observed that the average stay of two to three days is much lower in comparison to the average stay of six days in other Indian hill stations (Sikkim: The People's Vision, 2001).

Plan Expenditure on Tourism in Sikkim

Even though it is well understood that the Government of Sikkim is trying its best to promote Sikkim as one of the best tourist destinations at national and international levels, the facts in this regard need to be verified. Figures of plan expenditure on tourism in Sikkim in different plan periods may well serve the purpose. In addition, plan expenditure on road transportation and roads and bridges should also be taken into consideration because expansion of tourism is positively correlated with the expansion of road transportation and roads and bridges. It is evident from Table 1.6 that plan expenditure on tourism as a percentage of the total plan outlay did not show any substantial increase since 1985. In contrast, plan allocation on roads and bridges has been receiving much higher emphasis and the amount is also quite substantial in absolute term. Again, plan allocation on road transport is not showing much improvement over the periods. The State which is so vigorously pursuing tourism policy should perhaps have higher plan allocation in the sectors of tourism and road transport.

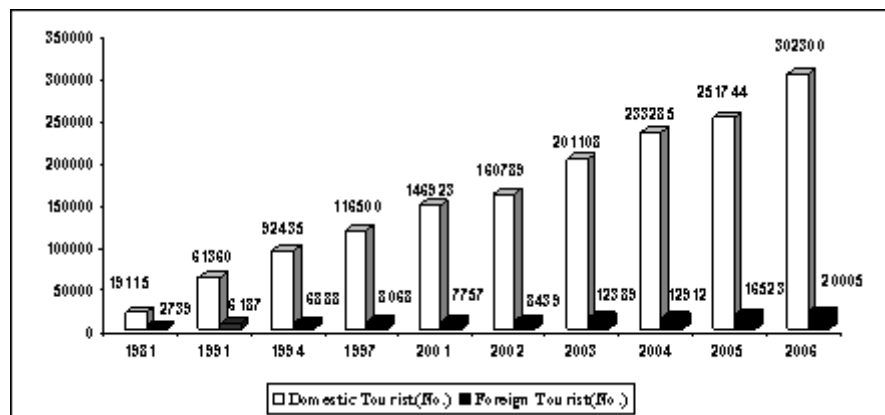
Conclusion

In spite of being identified as one of the tourist hotspots in India, the share of Sikkim in the total foreign tourists is only marginal. Its share in total domestic tourists at 0.07 per cent of the total domestic tourists is also insignificant. The average stay is much less in comparison to other Indian hill stations. Majority of the tourists are low-budget domestic tourists and

only a small percentage of them are ready to go for trekking, river rafting, and village tourism. Groups coming for conference and seminars or for study and research purposes are really scant in number. Although an abode of some of the oldest Buddhist monasteries, religious or spiritual tourism is yet to pick up. Expansion of tourism has still remained regionally imbalanced since majority of the tourists remain in and around East District or more precisely its capital, Gangtok. Different government departments such as Department of Tourism; Forest, Environment and Wildlife Management Department; Rural Management and Development Department and NGOs are engaged in tourism development and facilitation but in most cases they are working in isolation of each other. A joint and collaborative approach is desired but unfortunately this is non-existent till date. Tourism has not been addressed in a holistic manner and an integrated approach is required for which the key stakeholders need to come together under a common platform. Ecotourism is a much talked issue in Sikkim but to use it as a means for rural development is yet to materialize. Looking at the construction boom and pattern of construction in Gangtok and other urban areas have raised serious questions of transforming Sikkim into an eco-friendly destination and the greenest State of India. Strategies are to yet to be evolved to attract private investment in ecotourism and other tourism related projects. To bring some major hotel chains of international repute to Sikkim is yet to get a momentum.

Collection of statistics on tourist arrivals, tourist profiles, and expenditure pattern for each district periodically is still a distant reality. Connectivity with Siliguri and Bagdogra airport is always a matter of concern since the NH-31A, the road that connects Sikkim with Siliguri, is narrow and landslide-prone and the State is yet to overcome the high degree of seasonal variation in tourists inflow. Sikkim is yet to create a brand of its own at national and international level. It is estimated that an investment of Rs. 10 lakhs in tourism creates 47 direct jobs and 11 indirect jobs, which surpasses the employment potential from agriculture and industry. Therefore, in view of the vast and partially untapped tourism potential of Sikkim and in view of the saturation of government jobs as well as government-sponsored economic growth, tourism is the most viable option for the State to make it a self-sufficient economy.

Figure 2. Inflow of Tourists (Domestic and Foreign) in Sikkim (1981-2006)



Source: Economic Survey 2006-2007, Govt. of Sikkim, p.188.

Figure 3. Annual Growth of Tourists (Domestic, Foreign and Total) in Sikkim (1981-2005)

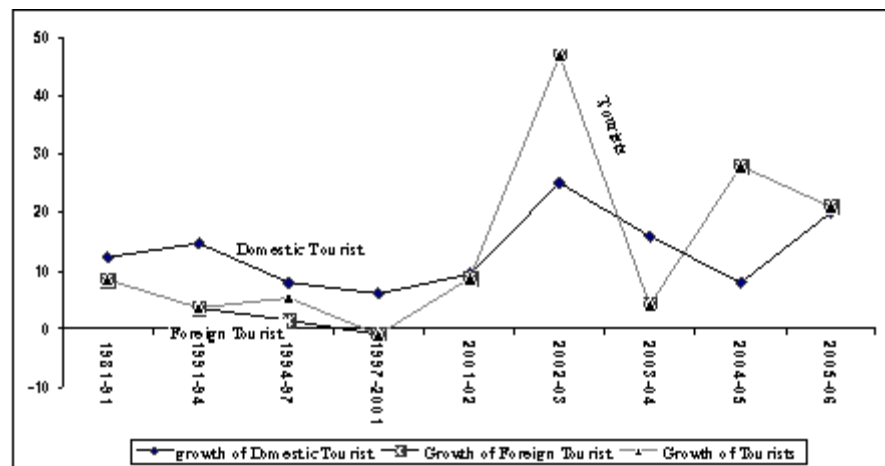


Table 1.5. Contribution of Transport and Communication, Trade, Hotels and Restaurants in Gross State Domestic Product at Current Prices (1980-81 to 2006-07)

Year	Transport & Communication	Trade, Hotels & Restaurants	Banking & Insurance	Total Share to GSDP
1980-81	1.1	6.0	1.9	9.0
1981-82	1.5	5.9	1.4	8.8
1982-83	1.7	5.7	1.2	8.6
1983-84	1.6	5.6	1.5	8.6
1984-85	1.5	5.2	1.6	8.2
1985-86	2.6	5.5	1.7	9.7
1986-87	2.2	5.2	1.7	9.0
1987-88	3.1	5.2	1.9	10.2
1988-89	3.0	5.4	2.8	11.1
1989-90	3.1	5.4	3.1	11.7
1990-91	3.7	8.7	3.1	15.5
1991-92	3.6	8.7	3.2	15.6
1992-93	3.8	9.3	3.8	16.9
1993-94	2.9	7.9	1.4	12.2
1994-95	3.4	8.0	1.5	12.9
1995-96	2.8	7.2	1.7	11.8
1996-97	3.7	6.8	1.7	12.2
1997-98	3.7	6.3	1.8	11.8
1998-99	3.4	6.2	1.9	11.5
1999-00	3.4	5.9	2.1	11.5
2000-01	3.2	5.8	2.4	11.3
2001-02	3.1	5.7	2.6	11.4
2002-03	3.0	5.6	3.0	11.7
2003-04	3.1	5.6	3.2	11.9
2004-05	3.2	5.4	3.3	11.9
2005-06	3.3	5.2	3.5	11.9
2006-07	3.3	5.0	3.6	11.9
AVERAGE	2.9	6.2	2.3	11.4

Source: Calculated from GSDP data at current prices, State Domestic Product of Sikkim, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Monitoring & Evaluation, Planning and Development Department, Govt. of Sikkim & <http://www.mospi.nic.in>

Table 1.6. Share of Sectoral and Sub-Sectoral Plan Allocation in Sikkim (1954-2007)

(Figures in Percentage of Total Plan Outlay)

Plan /Sectors	Tourism	Roads & Bridges	Road Transport
I Plan (1954-61)	NA	42.8	5.2
II Plan (1961-66)	0.8	40.5	6.9
III Plan (1966-71)	0.4	43.4	4.1
IV Plan (1971-75)	4.4	36.3	3.5
V Plan (1974-79)	2	26.1	3.1
VI Plan (1980-85)	1.5	22.3	4.9
VII Plan (1985-90)	0.75	6.4	3.2
VIII Plan (1992-97)	0.97	14.8	1.85
IX Plan (1998-2002)	1.27	9.6	0.8
X Plan (2002-2007)	1.20	15.10	0.91

Source: Calculated from different plan documents, Govt. of Sikkim.

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