

Scope of Village Tourism Development in Sheopur District of Madhya Pradesh

-Dr. Ankit Agrawal

Abstract

The district of Sheopur lies in Madhya Pradesh's northern region. The Sahariya tribal culture, Kuno Palpur National Park, African Chettah's home, biodiversity, heritage sites, archeological ruins, and cattle conservation are the district's most well-known features. The district and the state of Rajasthan are geographically adjacent and thus have a noticeable cultural influence on the indigenous culture of the Sheopur district. Residents of the Sheopur district's many villages are moving to other towns in search of better livelihood opportunities due to the severe lack of jobs and water, which causes the villages to become desertified and lose their unique culture. In that instance, recognizing and enhancing the Sheopur district's villages as rural tourism destinations is a positive step. The study's goal is to determine whether developing tourism in the selected district's villages is feasible. In order to determine the village's shortcomings for the development of tourism, a survey was carried out in three chosen villages as part of the study schedule. Additionally, the study will aid in gathering information about tourism elements that are already available in the chosen individual villages. According to the research's findings, the chosen villages offer a variety of tourism-related features, although some crucial ones are lacking and should be provided for. The research will help village tourism development policymakers in planning in Sheopur District.

Keywords: Village Tourism, Rural Tourism Development, Sheopur, Tribal Tourism, Madhya Pradesh Tourism

Introduction:

Sheopur is a district located in the northern part of Madhya Pradesh state of India. Given that the district is traversed by the Chambal River, it is a component of the Chambal division (MP Govt, 2023; MP Govt., 2023a). The district was created in 1998 by dividing the Madhya Pradesh district of Morena. It is bordered to the west and south by Rajasthan, and to the east and north by Shivpuri and Morena, respectively. The Saharia Tribal Community calls this area home. The majority of people in the Sahariya community reside in Sheopur and the surrounding areas. Kuno Palpur National Park is the district's most well-known feature. Cheetahs that were relocated from the African continent have recently made it their home (Soni & Agarwal, 2023). The land is home to bears, hyenas, panthers, and other wildlife. The district, which is located in the valley of the Vindhya mountain ranges, depends heavily on its forest, which makes up roughly 60% of its land area (Yadav & Kanaujia, 2023). There are 3006 sq. km. of conserved forest in the district. A large array of forest products, including herbal and medicinal products, Mahua, Harra, Lac, Gum, Tendu leaf, and Timber timber, are available (Sikarwar, 1997). This region has a scorching summer, mostly

dry weather outside of the monsoon season, and evenly spaced rainfall throughout that time. In summer, the average daily temperature is above forty degrees Celsius. The majority of people living in rural areas depend on farming and animal husbandry. The biodiversity is further enhanced by rivers that pass through forest areas, such as the Chambal, Seep, Kuno, etc. (MPPCB, 2021). This heritage is further enhanced by the forts, fortresses, monasteries, temples, etc. constructed throughout the district.

Sheopur	Places to visit: Saharia Tribal Museum, Sheopur Fort, etc.
Blocks	Karahal, Vijaypur and Sheopur
Sightseeing Places: Kuno Palpur National Park, Gupteshwar Mahadev, Rameshwar Triveni Sangam, Gauras, Karhal, Chandrasagar Talaab, Vijaypur Fort, Baroda Fort, Dob Kund, Manpur Fort, etc.	
Connectivity: The nearest airport is Gwalior and Jaipur (225 km). It is connected to the whole country through rail and roads.	
Sources: (Chambal Division, 2023; Yadav, 2020; District Sheopur, 2024a; District Sheopur, 2024b)	

Tourism Places of Sheopur

- **Kuno National Park:** The River Kuno that passes through this area gave rise to the name Kuno for this national park. The region has long been renowned for its abundance of wildlife. This location is hilly geographically, belonging to the Vindhya mountain range, which symbolizes the Central Indian plains with hills and valleys (Soni, Tomar, & Tomar, 2023). Here, one can witness thick forests and grasslands. In 2018, this area was designated as a wildlife refuge. The buffer zone surrounding the current Kuno National Park is 748.761 square kilometers in size. The Kuno River is a Chambal tributary. • According to Soni, Tomar, & Tomar (2023) and District Sheopur (2024), the area of the forest that hugs the banks of the Kuno River offers moist natural habitats for wildlife.
- **Sheopur Town:** More than eight hundred years of old history may be seen at the fort, which is situated in Sheopur town on the Seep River. The Gaur rulers, who originated in Ajmer, embellished it after the Kachhapaghat kings constructed the framework for it. The Gaur monarchs and later the Scindia dynasty constructed the palaces, courts, temples, and cenotaphs that are visible within the fort. The sites of importance at Sheopur Fort include Narsingh Mahal, Patang Burj, Gujar Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Rani Mahal, and so on (MP Archaeology, 2018; District Sheopur, 2024). For the purpose of preserving and advancing Saharia tribal culture, the Sahariya Museum was built in Sheopur Fort (District Sheopur, 2024). A number of endangered bird species also call the town home (Rawat & Rao, 2020). Narsingh Mahal, Patang Burj, Gujar Mahal, Sheesh Mahal, Rani Mahal etc. are the places of interest in Sheopur Fort (District Sheopur, 2024). Sahariya Museum has been constructed in Sheopur Fort for the preservation and promotion of Saharia tribal culture (District Sheopur, 2024). The town is also habitant of various endangered bird species (Rawat & Rao, 2020).
- **Sheopur Kalan Train:** The Gwalior-Sheopur Kalan train connects Gwalior and Sheopur. It is often referred to as the Maharaja Railway or the Gwalior Light Railway. This 200-kilometer route was additionally regarded as a Heritage Train Route became Broad Gauge later on (Poornima, 2015).

Tourists places exist in Sheopur District are:

1. Manpur Garhi - Maharaj Radhikadas Gaur, the King of Baroda, and Raja Manohar Singh constructed the fortress. Within the fort are wall murals depicting Shri Krishna Leela in the tradition of Rajasthan. The pictures of Maneshwar Mahadev Temple and Raga Ragni in the fort are also significant. The main entry gate of the fort is built of wood and contains an inscription on an iron sheet that states that Daulatrao Scindia won it in 1809 (District Sheopur, 2024) .

2. Dob Kund - 55 kilometers from Sheopur on the Goras-Shyampur road, has witnessed numerous civilisations from prehistoric times to the present. In the 9th and the 10th centuries, Dob served as the capital of the Kachchhapaghata dynasty. Dob Kund, which is rich in priceless natural richness, is worth viewing together with the ruins of Jain temples, Har Gauri temple, and other temples constructed by Vikram Singh Kachchhapaghata in the year 1045 (District Sheopur, 2024)(District Sheopur, 2024)

3. National Chambal Sanctuary- As Chambal River passes through Sheopur district, the district is also a part of National Chambal Sanctuary. Many endangered species call it home, including migrating birds, rare species of turtles, crocodiles, Indian skimmer, dolphins, and crocodiles (Yadav, Sahu, & Sahoo, 2016).

In addition to having an abundance of resources, the Sheopur district lacks a means of subsistence. Fewer arable land, fewer options for a living, antiquated agricultural techniques, and manual labor are a few plausible explanations (AIGGPA, ND). Additional factors could include high electricity costs, costly agricultural equipment, and other agricultural products that have driven farmers to look for new career paths outside of agriculture, which has led to migration (AIGGPA, 2022). The issue of malnutrition, which is brought on by either decreased food production or poverty, is another important factor (AIGGPA, 2018). Migration was the result of all these difficulties. To further their own agendas, a segment of the population has fully exploited the woodlands. The tribal people's and other village community members' primary source of food security has thus been permanently harmed. Without any other option, the locals have been forced to travel to neighboring cities or work as laborers in the nearby stone quarries in order to support themselves.

Numerous government initiatives and organizations are attempting to uplift the district's quality of life. Since the land is forested, modern industries cannot be justified or made practical. Development of the tourism industry may be an option in this case, protecting the area's wildlife, tribal culture, and rural indigenous way of life while also offering employment opportunities. In that instance, village tourism—a type of rural tourism—is more practical in the Sheopur district, which is essentially a rural and tribal reason.

Providing high-quality experiences to tourists from India and outside through village-centric activities in rural Indian destinations that meet certain hospitality standards have always been the main goal of village tourism (Reddy, 2012).

Village tourism was highlighted by Neumeier & Pollermann (2014) as one of the factors fostering rural development. We must work on local activities, particularly cultural events, to promote visitor engagement and length of stay. We must maximize each component of attraction if we are to promote village development via tourism.

In particular, the goal of rural tourism is to eliminate unemployment by creating job possibilities, giving those involved in agriculture additional sources of income, and executing various profit-generating projects utilizing rural resources (Sznajder et al, 2009).

The four pillars of rural tourism are as follows, according to Rosalina et al. (2021): Location of the tourism site; Sustainable development; locally operated; and provide rural experiences.

In order to achieve this, the Government of India's Ministry of Tourism launched the ETP-RTS (Endogenous Tourism Project - Rural Tourism Scheme) in 2003 in collaboration with the UNDP. As a result, several hundred gram panchayats nationwide were chosen to become tourist villages (MoT, GoI, 2012). The plan was abandoned after a few years of operation. Under ETP-RTS, the Gwalior-Chambal division's Seondha (District Datia) and Pranpur (District Ashoknagar) were covered (IITM, 2013; MoT, GoI, 2012). Though the idea and step were progressive, they failed since they weren't planned methodically.

The Ministry of Tourism hosts the annual "Best Tourism Village Competition" at the national level in India to further the development and promotion of village tourism (PIB, 2023). It is the perfect method to draw attention to and support a village's and its developer's best practices. A similar program called the "Vibrant Village Program" was launched by the Indian government in 2023 to spotlight and encourage border villages through travel (PIB, 2023)

The Sheopur district must be connected to tourism as a means of subsistence. Rural tourism may be able to give the locals a way of life right at their doorstep in such a circumstance. The district consists of 607 villages. It is necessary to locate a few of these villages and investigate the potential for tourism there. By doing this, we will be able to assist in identifying three villages in the Sheopur district that would be good candidates for the development of village tourism.

In Sheopur district, despite the wealth of resources, relatively little study has been done. This area has a great deal of potential for growth in the village tourism industry. We will list all of the tourist attractions and other significant elements that are present in the chosen villages of the Sheopur district in this research report. The study's goal is to assess the chosen community using the community Tourism Development criterion. This report's compilation will assist tourism policymakers in establishing the community as a rural tourism destination.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. Exploring the possibilities of village tourism development in Sheopur district.
2. To find the shortcomings that are expected to be needed in potential tourist villages.
3. To understand the potential of village tourism in the Sheopur region.
4. To prepare a report card of villages on their potential to be developed as tourist destinations.
5. To map the selected villages on the basis of available elements and components.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What elements are available in selected villages for tourism development?
2. What are the shortcomings that need to be encountered for village tourism development in Sheopur district?

3. Are the selected villages feasible to develop as a tourism destination?

METHODOLOGY

Three villages in the Sheopur district of Madhya Pradesh have been chosen to provide data for the study's purposes. Villages were chosen only using the non-probability purposive sampling technique. Agrawal (2021) originally established the Rural Tourism Benchmarking Criteria, a planned questionnaire used for data collection. Data analysis has been done using the benchmarking model. Sesaipura Village is designated with V1, Manpur with V2, and Goras with V3, for the sake of ease in the study.

DISCUSSION & RESULTS

Data from three villages in the Sheopur District of Madhya Pradesh called Sesaipura (V1), Manpur (V2), and Goras (V3) were gathered for the study using a modified version of the "Rural Tourism Benchmarking Index" program, which was first created by Agrawal (2021). This study includes a total of 87 questions for data collection, including factors and demographics. A fresh set of 68 questions have been tailored for analysis.

For the purpose of the study, the data has been collected from 3 villages named Sesaipura (V1), Manpur (V2), and Goras (V3) in the Sheopur District of Madhya Pradesh through the 'Rural Tourism Benchmarking Index' schedule originally designed by Agrawal (2021) and has been modified for the current study. A total of 87 questions have been incorporated into this study for data collection purposes, including demography and variables. 68 questions have been further catered for the analysis purpose.

Demographic details of the villages has presented in the tabular form namely Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3

TABLE 1					
Village:	Sesaipura		Block	Karahal	
Distance from DHQ	55 kms	Population	4000	Households	700
Popularly known for	Kuno National Park				
Places to visit:	Kuno River, Naunpura Valley, Narsingh Temple, Radhakrishna Temple etc.				
Description:	The village is known as the gateway to Kuno National Park. The Moravan entry gate of the National Park is 10 km from Sesaipura.				
Sightseeing Places:	Kuno National Park				
Connectivity:	The nearest railway station is Shivpuri (60 km). Sesaipura is on the Sheopur-Shivpuri Highway, which is connected with other cities.				
Data Source:	(Sharma, 2023)				

TABLE 2					
Village:	Manpur		Block	Sheopur	
Distance from DHQ	25 kms	Population	8000	Households	1200
Popularly known for	Triveni-Sangan and Manpur Fort				

Places to visit: Manpur Fort,
Description: The village is located on the confluence of three rivers, i.e., Chambal, Seep, and Banas, named Rameshwar Triveni Sangam.
Sightseeing Places: Gupteshwar Mahadev, Rameshwar Sangam etc.
Connectivity: The nearest railway station is Sawai Madhopur (60 km). Manpur is connected with neighboring towns like Sheopur and Sawai Madhopur.
Data Source: (District Sheopur, 2024a; District Sheopur, 2024b)

TABLE 3					
Village:	Goras		Block	Karahal	
Distance from DHQ	30	Population	8000	Households	1000
Popularly known for	Gir and Marwari Cows				
Places to visit:	Pataleshar Temple, Tejaji Temple, Ram Janki Tample, etc.				
Description:	The village is known as the home of Gir and Marwari cows. It is a temporary settlement of nomadic tribes and cow herders of Rajasthan.				
Sightseeing Places:	Kuno National Park, Dob Kunda, Dev Kho etc.				
Connectivity:	The nearest railway stations to Goras are Shivpuri and Sawai Madhavpur (60 km). It is located at the road junction of Sheopur, Shivpuri, and Sabalgarh.				
Data Source:	(Dainik Bhaskar, 2020)				

Nine variables—cultural identity, attraction, activities, involvement, literacy, approachability, amenities, sustainability, and promotion—which are further broken down into their own indicators, comprise the data gathered for the study from the aforementioned villages. Below (Table 4), these variables and their indicators are categorized together with the corresponding citations.

A matrix with rows representing variables and columns representing village names and citation references can be used to format a typical data set. Each "Yes" indicates whether a variable is available or existing in the village; "May Be" indicates whether a variable is "available but not working or recognized in altered form," and "No" indicates that a variable is neither available nor exists.

TABLE 4				
Metrics	V1	V2	V3	Sources
1. Village Art & craft	Yes	Yes	Yes	Cultural Identity (Laws, 1995; Gunn, 1994; N'Drower, 2014; Ford, 2019; Agrawal, 2021; George et al., 2009; Elliot et al., 2011; Gahare, H., & N'Drower, F., 2021; Gahare & N'Drower, 2021; Spennemann et al., 2001; UOGuelph, 2015)
2. Folklores	Yes	Yes	Yes	
3. Village Legends	Yes	Yes	Yes	
4. Village Custom & Traditions	Yes	Yes	Yes	
5. Village Architectural Buildings	Yes	Yes	Yes	
6. Performing Arts	Yes	No	Yes	

7. Involvement of local artisans	May Be	Yes	Yes	
8. Cuisines	May Be	Yes	Yes	
9. Village Fairs & Festivals	Yes	Yes	Yes	
10. Any Village Dialect	May Be	Yes	Yes	
11. Traditional Healing Practices	May Be	Yes	Yes	
12. Traditional Haat Bazaar	Yes	May Be	No	
13. Rural Landscape	Bay Be	Yes	Yes	Attraction (Gunn, 1994; UOGuelph, 2015; Elliot et al., 2011; N'Drower 2014; Ketema, 2015; Laws, 1995; Spennemann, 2001; Agrawal et al., 2022)
14. Water Bodies	Yes	Yes	Yes	
15. Mountains	Yes	No	No	
16. Flora & Fauna	Yes	Yes	Yes	
17. Sites of religious importance	Yes	Yes	Yes	
18. Forest Reserve/ Natural Area	Yes	Yes	Yes	
19. Any Heritage Monuments	May Be	Yes	Yes	Activities (Tyllianakis, et al., 2019; UOGuelph, 2015; Ford, 2019; Reddy, 2012; Gunn, 1994; Spennemann, 2001; Ketema, 2015; Agrawal et al., 2021)
20. Cultural Visits	May Be	May Be	May Be	
21. Village Walk Tours	May Be	May Be	May Be	
22. Interaction with local community	Yes	May Be	Yes	
23. Academy/ Workshop	May Be	May Be	No	
24. Cattle farms	Yes	Yes	Yes	
25. Cart Riding/ Animal Riding/Boating	Yes	May Be	Yes	
26. Farm Tour & Agri Activities	May Be	May Be	Yes	
27. Photography permission	May Be	May Be	Yes	
28. Water Sports	No	May Be	No	
29. Village Games	Yes	Yes	Yes	Involvement (George et al., 2009; Agrawal & Khangarot, 2021; Gunn, 1994; UOGuelph, 2015; Elliot et al., 2011)
30. Trekking Possibilities	May Be	No	May Be	
31. Cottage Industries	Yes	Yes	Yes	
32. Souvenir shop/ Village Product Shop	Yes	Yes	No	
33. Local Community keen in associating with tourism	May Be	May Be	May Be	
34. Villages interested to make career in tourism	May Be	May Be	Yes	
35. Villager ready to start tourism venture	Yes	May Be	May Be	

36. Villages are ready to invest in tourism sector	May Be	May Be	May Be	
37. Involvement/Participation of Community	Yes	May Be	Yes	
38. Village Spirit/Belongingness	May Be	Yes	May Be	
39. School Available in Village	Yes	Yes	Yes	Literacy Rate (Tyllianakis, et al., 2019; Gahare & N'Drower, 2021; Ford, 2019; Elliot et al., 2011; Agrawal et al., 2022)
40. High Literacy (Above 50%)	Yes	Yes	Yes	
41. Any Capacity Building Program organized in the past	No	No	Yes	
42. Mode of Public Transportation available	Yes	Yes	Yes	Approachability (Lohmann & Duval, 2011; Laws, 1995; UOGuelph, 2015; N'Drower, 2014; Ketema, 2015; Gunn, 1994; Agrawal et al., 2022; Beniušienė & Jankauskienė, 2021; Tirkolaee et al. 2018)
43. Connect with Pacca Road	Yes	Yes	Yes	
44. Distance within 3 Hours Drive	Yes	Yes	Yes	
45. Parking Space	Yes	Yes	Yes	
46. Sign Boards	Yes	Yes	No	
47. Homestays	May Be	No	Yes	Amenities (Laws, 1995; Gunn, 1994; UOGuelph, 2015; Ford, 2019; Holloway et al., 2011; N'Drower, 2014; Elliot et al., 2011; Lohmann & Duval, 2011; Ketema, 2015; Agrawal et al., 2022)
48. Public Toilets	Yes	Yes	May Be	
49. Safe Drinking Water	Yes	Yes	Yes	
50. Police Station	Yes	Yes	No	
51. Internet Facility	Yes	Yes	May Be	
52. Electricity	Yes	Yes	Yes	
53. Health Center	Yes	Yes	May Be	
54. Mom & Pop Store	Yes	Yes	May Be	Sustainability (George et al., 2009; Gunn, 1994; Elliot et al., 2011; Spennemann, 2001; N'Drower, 2014; Ford, 2019; Ketema, 2015)
55. Wayside Amenities/Cafeteria	Yes	May Be	Yes	
56. Preservation of Culture	May Be	No	May Be	
57. Conservation of Local Heritage	May Be	No	No	
58. Cleanliness	May Be	May Be	May Be	
59. Environmental friendly practices	Yes	May Be	May Be	
60. Village Community Friendliness behavior	Yes	Yes	Yes	
61. Voluntary Practices	No	No	No	
62. Relaxation / Peaceful aura	May Be	May Be	No	
63. Social Support	Yes	May Be	Yes	

64. Community participation in decision making	May Be	Yes	Yes	Promotion (UOGuelph, 2015; Elliot et al., 2011; Tyllianakis et al., 2019; Agrawal et al., 2022)
65. Advertisement through Print & Electronic Media	May Be	May Be	Yes	
66. Promotion through Social Media	Yes	May Be	No	
67. Image Building activities	May Be	No	Yes	
68. Villagers aware about tourism	Yes	May Be	May Be	

The collected data has been analysed through the Village Tourism Destination Assessment Index (Agrawal, 2021), and its results are presented below in Table 5.

TABLE 5			Note- - Above 65% (High Possibility) - Between 50%-65% (Possibility with extra efforts) -Below 50% (Not possible)
	Village	Score	
1.	V1	80.74	
2.	V2	77.75	
3.	V3	70.38	

The analysis result indicates that all the selected villages have the potential to develop as tourism destinations. Further discussion on the tourism elements that exist in the village or need to be catered for has been presented in Table 6.

TABLE 6			
Metrics	V1	V2	V3
Village Art & craft	Wooden Work, Bamboo Tokri	Mud utensils	Mandana Art
Folklores	Dacoit Malkhan Singh	Stories of Tejaji	Stories of Ramdev Ji (<i>Lok Devta</i>)
Village Legends	Sant Harigiri Ji Maharaj	Ahmed Ali Shah-teacher	Sant Bihari Das Ji
Village Custom & Traditions	Saharia Tribe Traditions	<i>Prabhaat Pheri</i> -Morning procession	Rajasthani and Sahariya
Village Architectural Buildings	Mud Houses	<i>Kavelu</i> – Roof Tiles home	Traditional mud hut and stone slab
Performing Arts	Folk songs; Lengi and Malhar	Folk Songs- Faag	Folk songs of Tejaji and other Marwari songs
Cuisines	<i>Rabri</i> and <i>Gujiya</i>	Laddu Baati	Kakode, Churma Baati, etc.

Village Fairs & Festivals	-	Kartik Purnima	Teja Ji Mela and ramdev Ji Mela
Any Village Dialect	<i>Khadi boli</i>	Rajasthani Tone	Rajasthani and <i>Khadi Boli</i>
Traditional Healing Practices	Stomachache, blunt injury, etc.	<i>Moch, Dhan, Bones, Charkoli, bicchhu, etc.</i>	Snakebite, Scorpion bite, etc.
Traditional Haat Bazaar	Weekly Saturday	Weekly Saturday	-
Water Bodies	Kuno river	Chambal River, Seep River, Banaas River, Stepwell, etc	Dam on Seep river,
Mountains	Naunpur Valley	-	-
Flora & Fauna	Kardhai, Pine, gum, Salai, and Khair trees and various species of birds and mammals	River Dolphin, Tortoise, pine etc	<i>Amla, Reetha, Gum, Kherka, Musli, etc.</i>
Sites of religious importance	Nar Singh Temple, Radhakrishna Temple etc.	Rameshwar Dham, Maneshwar Nath, etc.	Pentaleshwar, Panwaada ki Mata, Tejaji Temple etc.
Forest Reserve/ Natural Area	Kuno Wildlife reserve, Karahal Forest Division	Ghariyal Sanctuary and Budhera	Karahal Range and Kuno Range
Any Heritage Monuments	Kuno River Bridge	Manpur fort, stepwell, Resthouse, etc.	Jain Temples and Dob Kunda
Cart Riding/ Animal Riding/Boating	Bullock Cart	Boating	Bullock Cart
Village Games	Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Naal etc.	Kabaddi, Kho-Kho, Sitholiya, etc.	Kabaddi, Naal, etc.
Cottage Industries	Herbs	<i>Matka</i> (earthen pot)	Dairy products

Above-mentioned Table 1 describes the tourism elements that exist in the village and showcases their strengths. There are a few indicators that do not exist in villages or need to be maintained to be used as tourism infrastructure or a superstructure.

SUGGESTIONS:

As per the results, indicators that have a significant role in tourism development but are not found in the selected villages are categorically discussed in Table 7 village-wise. It receives the highest score in an analysis, which showcases that it has most of the village tourism indicators that can attract and engage tourists.

TABLE 7			
Variables	V1	V2	V3

1. Cultural Identity	● Support to artisans ● Cuisines	● Performing Arts ● Identification of Haat Bazar	Traditional Weekly market
2. Attraction	-	-	-
3. Activities	● Development of walk routes of village ● Agri activities ● Farm visits ● Trekking	● Development of walk routes of village ● Agri activities ● Interaction activities ● Trekking routes	Village walk for cultural visits and interest with local artisans
4. Involvement	Interaction with the local community for their active involvement and participation	Motivate villagers to participate in tourism activities to make a career and bring investment.	● Village Product shop ● Bring investment
5. Literacy Rate	Organise workshop or Training programs	Capacity Building Program	-
6. Approachability	-	-	Sign Boards
7. Amenities	Homestays development	● Homestays development ● Wayside amenities/ cafeteria	● Public Toilets ● Police station ● Mom & Pop Store
8. Sustainability	Conservation and preservation of intangible and tangible village heritage. Clean and green practices	● Conservation of culture ● Preservation of village heritage ● Clean and Green Practices ● Promote Voluntary Practices & Social Support	● Conservation of local heritage ● Clean and Green Practices
9. Promotion	Promotion of Village activities and products	● Promotion of village ● Awareness about tourism	Social media promotion

V1- Village Sesaipura is full of tourism attractions, as it is very close to Kuno National Park and the epicenter of the Saharia Tribal Community. It has the potential to work on identification of local cuisine, village routes to show them culture, making homestays, preservation and conservation, along with maintaining cleanliness and greenery.

V2- Village Manpur is on the bank of the Chambal River and close to Rajasthan state. A lot of heritage monuments and religious places exist in the village but require maintenance. Homestay development, along with eating joints, can give it a quick start. Also, water sports or other trekking activities are possible in the region. Capacity-building programs are required to engage and motivate local communities to associate with tourism activities.

V3- Village Goras is famous for its Rajasthani/Marwari migration culture. Shepherds or cow herders moved in caravans from their homeland (Rajasthan) to spend time here in Goras village. The village is known for its dairy products, but there is no organised shop for them. The sign board, public toilet, police station, and mom-and-pop store do not currently exist in the village. Plantation and cleanliness drives are also required in the village.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE STUDY

The hypothesis that these particular villages have the potential to emerge as rural tourism destinations will be bolstered by this research. This study will be used in the future by rural tourism policymakers to choose the ideal location for growth. In a similar vein, academics in the future may base their research in other villages on the aforementioned criteria. For their leisure activities, tourists will also have access to the village's tourism attractions.

CONCLUSION

The research closes with the observation that the chosen hamlet is viable for the growth of rural tourism and is part of Madhya Pradesh's Sheopur district, based on the analysis results. The Madhya Pradesh Tourism Department has designated 100 villages for tourism development (Economic Times, 2022). Madla (District Panna) and Orchha (District Niwari) are two prosperous Madhya Pradesh examples that we can observe (Madhya Pradesh Tourism, 2023). Analogously, the study's findings show that Sesaipura, Manpur, and the Goras possess a great deal of the tourism components needed for rural development, including factors like cultural identity, accessibility to tourist attractions, activities, participation, literacy rate, approachability, amenities, sustainability, and promotion. There are numerous other essential items that are absent from the village. For the sake of the future, every flaw must be fixed. A program promoting rural tourism is a useful tool for improving rural development and the living conditions of rural residents (Sudheer, 2021). Here, rural tourism creates a lot of chances and improves society in a number of ways, including employment, cultural preservation, and socioeconomic development.

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Dr. Ankit Agrawal

Post Doctoral Fellow, School of Studies in Tourism & Travel Management, Jiwaji University,
Gwalior (M.P.)

Prof. S.K. Dwivedi

Professor (Retd.), School of Studies in Tourism & Travel Management, Jiwaji University, Gwalior
(M.P.)