

Contents

Particulars	Page
<i>Acknowledgement</i>	i
<i>Glossary</i>	iv
<i>List of tables</i>	vi
<i>List of figures, List of plates</i>	x
CHAPTER-I : INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 The Sikkim Biodiversity and Ecotourism Project	6
1.2 Core Hypothesis	8
1.3 Objectives	8
1.4 Design of the Thesis	9
1.5 Limitations	10
CHAPTER-II : REVIEW OF LITERATURE	13
2.1 Evolution of Tourism	13
2.2 Nature Based Tourism and Ecotourism	15
2.3 Mountain Tourism	19
2.4 Economic Value of Ecotourism	21
2.4.1 Economic valuation of ecosystem services	23
CHAPTER-III : BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY AREA	30
Introduction	30
3.1 Geographical Location	31
3.1a Yuksam-Dzongri-Goechha La trekking corridor	33
3.1b Sacred Khecheopalri lake	34
3.2 Physical Setting	35
3.2.1 Physiography	35
3.2.2 Geology	36
3.2.3 Climate	37
3.2.4 Vegetation and soils	39
3.3 Cultural Setting	40
3.3.1 History	40
3.3.2 Ethnic groups, distribution and characteristics	42
3.3.3 Religion	45

3.3.4 Food habits	46
3.4 Institution and Infrastructure	46
3.4.1 Education	47
3.4.2 Health and sanitation	48
3.4.3 Trails and roads	49
3.4.4 Marketing	50
3.4.5 Communication	51
3.4.6 Institutional framework	51
CHAPTER-IV : DYNAMICS OF TOURISM	59
Introduction	59
4.1 Methods	60
4.2 Tourism Growth	62
4.2.1 Purpose and length of visit	64
4.2.2 Pattern of trekking	65
4.2.2 Age-sex structure of visitors	67
4.2.4 Educational level and profession of the visitors	67
4.2.5 Mode of travel	68
4.2.6 Type of accommodation availed	68
4.2.7 Income structure and expenditure pattern	69
4.2.8 Visitors opinion and reaction	70
4.3 Tourism Marketing	71
4.3.1 Marketing products	72
4.3.2 Promotional materials	73
4.3.3 Economic worth of tourism industry	74
4.4 Conclusion	75
CHAPTER-V : SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	93
Introduction	93
5.1 Methods	94
5.2 Socio-Economic Characteristics	95
5.2.1 Level of education	96
5.2.2 Land utilization and agricultural production	97
5.2.3 Livestock holding	99
5.3 Indicators on Economic Development	100
5.3.1 Income	100

5.3.2 Quality of life	102
5.3.3 Consumption pattern	104
5.3.4 Household assets	107
5.4 Conclusion	108
CHAPTER-VI : ECONOMIC EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE TO NATURAL ECOSYSTEM	122
Introduction	122
6.1 Methods	124
6.1.1 Analysis of forests and other land-use/covers	124
6.1.2 Extraction of forest products	124
6.1.3 Trail and lake side erosion	127
6.1.4 Economic valuation	128
6.1.4.1 Sampling design and data source	129
6.1.4.2 The travel cost method	130
6.1.4.3 The contingent valuation method	135
6.2 Forest Cover and Density	138
6.3 Resource Utilization Pattern	139
6.3.1 Fuelwood consumption	139
6.3.2 Species under pressure	143
6.3.3 Fodder utilization	144
6.3.4 Timber utilization	145
6.3.5 Overland flow and soil loss	146
6.3.6 Solid wastes	147
6.4 Economic Valuation	148
6.4.1 Socio-economic analysis	148
6.4.2 Recreational / Sacredness value	153
6.4.3 Analyzing willingness-to-pay	155
6.5 Conclusion	162
CHAPTER-VII : TOURISM, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION	191
Introduction	191
7.1 Methods	192
7.2 Tourism and Development of Local and Regional Economy	193
7.3 Government Investments	195

7.4 Components of Ecotourism and Conservation	196
7.4.1 Participatory ecotourism planning	196
7.4.2 Participatory conservation practices	196
7.4.3 Skill development training program	200
7.4.4 Study tours and exchanges	201
7.4.5 Tourism policy	203
7.5 Suggestions for Future Management of Tourism	205
Summary	214
References	228
Photoplates	