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CHAPTER -III

IDENTIFICATION OF THE TOURIST SPOT.

The concept of Eco-Tourism means making as little environmental impact as possible and helping to sustain the indigenous populace thereby encouraging, the preservation of wild life and habitats when visiting a place. This is responsible form of tourism and tourism development, which encourages going back to natural products in every aspects of life. It is also the key to sustainable ecological development.

In the case of eco-tourism, the immediate origin should be the word 'ecology' if we are to reclaim the term and support it with strength and precisions. Ecotourism means quite simply 'ecologically sound tourism' or ecologically 'sensitive tourism'. Ecotourism is 'tourism to the house or home.' After explaining the significance of the selected area, we can identify the places which are important in the point of view of the development of ecotourism.

Kolhapur with its spirit of resilience and chivalry is uniquely inspiring city with interesting places, monuments like exquisite places and forts, rich in biodiversity that bring



alive the past known in the ancient times as 'Karveer Nagari' the place is spiritually alive with ancient temples that attracts fervent devotees from all over India.

By considering all the aspects and features namely natural, historical, ethical and cultural we can realize that we have a lot of potential around, which specializes in soft adventure, cultural and natural experiences and thus we can promote ecotourism plan in the selected area.

3.1 The Kolhapur City:

The land of magnificent temples.... This is the town of Kolhapur, The religious pride of Maharashtra. Nestled in the tranquil lap of the Sahyadri mountain ranges, it is situated on the verge of the river Panchaganga, surrounded by rivers from all directions with Krishna, Ganiki to the east, Shiva and Mayuri to the west, Veda and Yaksha to the south and to the north Krishna and Warana, this part of terra firma houses a plethora of fascinating temples. It is believed to be a milk rich area and the hill side weathers conditions are believed to be beneficial for body builders. Winters are mild and misty and the people remain enthusiastic. Also termed as a city of palaces, gardens it is a historic Maratha

city with the Mahalaxmi Temple forming the focus. The place is well known all over India as holy place from ancient times. Pilgrims from far and near have continued to flock here in their thousands every year, during the last thousand years, may be even earlier. So great was indeed its repute, that it was known as 'Dakshine Kashi', the Kashi of south. Moreover, as the legend goes it weighed in importance more than Kashi itself. Kolhapur is a sacred spot of Hinduism since historical times.

3.2 Geographical Location:

The location of Kolhapur is shown on the map of Maharashtra. It lies in the southern part of Maharashtra. Ratnagiri and Sindhudurga bound Kolhapur district to the west, by Sangli to the north and by Karnataka state to the east and south. Kolhapur situated between 17.17' to 15.43' north latitudes and 73.40' and 74.42' east longitudes is entirely in the Panchaganga basin.

3.3 History :

Kolhapur is a beautiful city, situated in the southwest corner of Maharashtra, Located 400 Kms. South of Mumbai, Kolhapur is an ancient town. Karveer, the modern

Kolhapur, The abode of the great goddess Mahalaxmi was well known all over India as a holy place from ancient times. Pilgrims from far and near have continued to flock here in their thousands every year during the last thousand years, may be even earlier. So great was indeed its repute, that it was known as 'Dakshin Kashi', the Kashi of south. In addition, as the legend goes it weighed in importance more than Kashi itself. It so happened that once upon a time Shiva and Mahalaxmi were discussing their respective habitats. In the course of these talks a dispute arose as to which mere important, Kashi the abode of Shiva or Karveer that of Mahalaxmi. Both agreed to go to Vishnu for getting the controversy. The lord of Vikunth Picked up pair of scales, placed Kashi in one pan, Karveer in the other and it need hardly to be told that Karveer proved to be heavier of the two. Be it as it may, one thing is certain, Kolhapur is a sacred spot of Hinduism since historical times.

Kolhapur was an imperative Buddhist base during 3rd century BC. There is evidence to prove the same. Even today this place termed as Dakshin Kashi and is believed to be 108 Kalpas old (one Kalpa = 100 yrs.) called Karveer, a very

rich and glamour place. Once it was turn entirely into shambles in the 8th and 9th century, the cause earthquakes. Later the Rashtra Koot kings thought of bringing back the town to life and developing it to form an important city. That they did, and the city gets a new face in the 12th century. It has then declared as the capital of king Sheeldatta. 1945 witnessed certain archeological excavations near a hill in Kolhapur. In addition, there was a discovery ... Remains of a prehistoric town that supposedly belonged to the Roman Era.

Kolhapur history may be divided into 3 periods, an early Hindu period, partly mythic, and partly historic, reaching about A.D. 1347 a Musalman period lasting from A.D. 1347 to about 1700 and a Maratha period since 1700.

Kolhapur was the main target of the Mughal forces. The early 19th century was a spectator to the rise of the British control over. The Marathas Rigorous attacks lead to the agitation of the Kolhapur troops in 1857. The British regime saw the coronation of Shri Chatrapati Shahu Maharaj as the King of Kolhapur in 1894. The land became a part of India in 1947. Prior to this, it was a province,

which ranged from the western Ghat to the Deccan Plains and was under the rulers called the Marathas. The land later turned into a major avenue of outdoor sports, hunting being a key hit in those times. Shahu Maharaj was a great ruler, who took immense pains to identify the sufferings of his subjects, unlike the other princes of his time. He took to developing the land and its people. Chatrapati Shahu Maharaj promoted education for all casts and he eradicated casts and communalism in and around Kolhapur. A princely state that it was during the British rule, it still has palaces, gardens, monuments displaying the Indo-British architecture.

Thus, it can be said that, the district place Kolhapur has all the potentials, ample resources several interesting and important ecological plants and places, and a number of interesting localities, which have remained the totally, untouched. The district place has resources for efficient tourism industry, that too ecotourism. Even having all the unique things, the question arises why people go far away from Kolhapur? Why high spending, nature-loving people prefer Mahabaleshwar, Ooty etc Moreover, why we are

not fulfilling the dream and requirements of Deccan
Odyssey...?

There are various places of interest and significant viewpoints. Many people visits Kolhapur as the district place is at the centre of India's economic capital Mumbai, Pune, Goa, Konkan, Bangalore, Karnataka where one can feel and get pleasure and healthy environment and the place which is full of different tourist spots.

This chapter covers identification and importance of various Potential places and spots comes under Kolhapur district, where we can implement the concept of an ecotourism – a view of modern development ideology. The geographical location and its various aspects of an area itself explain significance and potential of selected area for the development of ecotourism, which incorporates adventure travel, cultural exploration and appreciation of nature. It includes education and interpretation of the natural environment and contributes in preservation of ecology. It is an emerging field and in the phase of development. It is beneficial to people as well as environment.

3.4 Significance of Kolhapur for the Study:

The district place Kolhapur is a unique place under Maharashtra state. Kolhapur is an ancient princely state, Modern industrial town and well-known pilgrimage centre, also known as Kalapur that can be an excellent and popular eco-tourist place, if an ideal eco-tourism plans is developed and implemented. It has a great potential, which can attract tourist from all corners of the nation and from abroad. It will definitely preserve the natural value and will help to achieve an objective of economic development.

Kolhapur the extreme southern district of Maharashtra state, situated between 17°17' to 15°43' north latitudes and 73°40' and 74°42' east longitudes is entirely in the Panchganga basin encompassing an area of about 7685 sqkms. (.Banthia 1995-96.) The average height above mean sea level varies from 390-900 miters. East West spread of the district is about 75kms. And across the North South is about 102kms.

The Warana River, the east by Krishna and Dudhganga, the Patwardhan states of Miraj and Sangli, and the Chikodi subdivision of Belgaon and on the West by the

Sahyadris, which separate it from Sawantwadi and Ratnagiri, bound Kolhapur on the north.

[A] Aspects and Outlying belts:-

Kolhapur is irregular belt of the Deccan Plateau lying along the east of Sahyadri crest, about 65 miles from north to south and eight to fifty miles from west to east. In the north, a point of land, eight to 12 miles broad, runs about sixteen miles along the Sahyadris. It spreads till it has a breadth of about fifty miles and again about 16 miles to the south narrow to about 30 miles and keep 30-40 miles broad to within 10 miles of the extreme south, where it runs to a point about 16 miles east of Sahyadris. Besides this main irregular belt, there are three isolated groups of villages, two to the east and one to the west. The western group lies within Ratnagiri limits, to the west of Bavada, which is about the middle of the Kolhapur section of Sahyadris. Of the two isolated blocks to the east Raibag is a little to the north of east, about 16 miles north and south,

ten east and west, from eight to 20 miles distant from the east of Kolhapur. About 20 miles southeast of Raibag are Katkol and Torgal an irregular belt lying nearly north and south, about 16 miles along and 6-16 broad.

The block of Kolhapur below the Sahyadris includes the lands of forty-three villages and forms a belt about 30 miles from north to south and ten to 15 broad. Except a few rugged villages of Kolhapur, most of the Kolhapur-Konkan is composed of level tablelands. The village sites are well wooded and the surrounded by groves of mango, jack, and undi trees and in pomburk, kokisre, khambale and Nanivde by cocoa and betel palms.

The district as a whole is a part of the Deccan tableland and slopes towards the southeast. District may be grouped in three parts i.e.

The main range of gently uneven and mature looking Crestline of Sahyadris with a height between 800 and 1000 meters and a width of 15-25km, spread in a north-south direction forms the western boundary of the district. The gap of this Crestline gives Ghat passes such as Amba,

Anuskura, BhuiBavda, Hanumanta, Karul, Phonda, and Ramghat and tillari ghats.

The pleatu has marked by several hill ranges, which emerge from the main range and develop an eastward trend gently undulating with ridges and valleys. They have a height between 600 and 800 meters.

The river valleys, which have a well, developed drainage pattern.

[B] Hill top konkan and the plain:-

The climate is healthy, though in April and May the heat is oppressive. The grounds are fertile and yields good crops. The villages are flat roofed and are surrounded with mud walls. Apart from these outlying blocks to the west and to the east, the main body of Kolhapur, in the pleatue immediately to the east of the Sahyadri crest various from 30-50 miles breadth and from 2000-1800 ft above the sea. The line of the Poona- Belgaom road, which passes nearly north and south through Kolhapur, Kagal and Nipani

30-40 miles east of the Sahyadri crest. It divides Kolhapur into two unique parts a rugged tract hill- top konkan or konkan ghat matha. A wet and cool region, and a more open block to the north east stretching about 30 miles east from the western belt and from north to south varying in breadth from 15-20 miles, this is known as the plain or desh. The western or hilly belt consists of the Sahyadri range and a series of six valleys separated by lines of hills, which run northeast and east. In the west among and close to the Sahyadri, the scenery is wild and picturesque. The hills are said to have been once thickly covered with trees and though most of the timber has disappeared, there are still fine grooves and stretches of hill side closely covered with brushwood. Beyond the immediate neighborhood of Sahyadri, the country still within the wet and cool region stretches east about 30 miles in the six main valleys of the Warana Panchganga, Dudhganga, Vedganga, Hiranyakeshi and Ghatprabha.

The villages are small, often close together on the banks of stream and near spring on the lower hill slopes. They are generally open without walls or towers and

surrounded by grooves of tamarind mango and jack trees. Near the village and the banks of stream where they can be watered by lifts, are patches of rich sugarcane and other garden crops. Beyond the patches of garden land stretch, grain field, many of them yielding excellent crops. Towards the edges, the valley gradually passes into poor soil growing only the coarser grains. Besides the tress, which shades the village sites, most villages have their clumps or groves of mangoes tamarinds pipals. The lands of the different villages have generally separated by a strip of wood or bush land the hillsides are bare but in many places have built in a succession of small terraces carefully tilled and yielding good crop especially of rice. Over the whole belt, the rainfall is certain and sufficient the supply varying from as much as 250 inches in some of the height most exposed bluffs of the Sahyadris to 50 or 60 inches towards the east of the belt.

The plain or desh section of Kolhapur, which includes the mouths of the valleys of the Warana, the Panchganga, the Dudhaganga and the Vedganga. Beyond the mouth of the valleys part of the broad Deccan plain broken by low ridges of hills and single peaks.

[C] Hills:

Hills are the chief natural feature of Kolhapur. They includes the main range of the Sahyadries running north for about a hundred miles, and six large spurs which stretch north and east 30-50 miles from the Sahyadries, and divide the Kolhapur pleatue into six main valleys. In the eastern plain are two minor outlying groups the Ray bag and the Katkol hills. Within the Kolhapur limit the crest of the Sahyadries varies from 2000-3500 and average about 2500feet above the sea. The Sahyadries are full of wild and beautiful scenery. Within Kolhapur limits in or Sahyadris are nine of these fortified hilltops. In the extreme north beyond the Satara border is Prachitgad, about two miles south of Prachitgad on the Kolhapur boarder is Bahirgad. Mahimatgad, about 12 miles further south in a straight line, but a good deal more following the crest of the hill, is Vadi machal fort. A little to the south of it is the famous fort of Vshalgad about 3350feet above the sea level. The next fort of consequence is Bavada, about the middle of the Kolhapur section of the Sahyadris.

Close to the north of the Phonda pass, is Shivgad 3240 feet above the sea, then bhairavgad and towards west is Rangana or Parshidgad a favorite fort of Shivaji.

Within the 100 Miles of Kolhapur, 94 passes of which three- the Amba pass in the north, the Phonda pass in the middle and the Amboli pass in the south pass the Anuskura pass about 22km. of Kolhapur and separated from it by a difficult hilly area. Close beyond the southern boundary of Amboli pass is the Ram pass. The great highway between Belgaum and Vengurla and one of the main opening between Goa and inland parts which is wide and one of the easiest routes across the Sahyadris. About five miles to the south of the Amba pass on each side of the narrow neck of land which joins Vishalgad for to the crest of the shyadris. Nine miles south of the Vishalgad passes is the Anuskura pass about 30 miles northwest of Kolhapur, and separated from it by a hilly country.

From the confused mass of hill to the east of the Sahyadri six great ranges stretches east and northeast 30-35 miles across the Kolhapur plateau. Those ranges are- Vshalgad- Panhala range in the north

Phonda-Savegaon range.

Kolhapur-Mudhol Range.

Bhudargad- Nipani range.

samangad Range

Malprabha- gandhrvegad range.

Of the six the only one stretches east nearly at right angle to the main crest of the Sahyadri, is the sahyadris at the great Vishalgad fort(3348ft.) near Malkapur, about 40 miles northwest of Kolhapur.

[D] Rivers:

The characteristics river of kolhapur are six in number. The Warana, the Panchganga , the Dudhganga, the Vedganga, the Hiranyakeshi and the Ghatprabha. These rivers rise in the Sahyadris and flow southeast, east or northeast 50-60 miles across the Kolhapur plateau towards the Krishna. The leading Kolhapur streams have generally deep banks of an average height of about 40feet and soft beds varying in breadth from 200 to 600. During the first 30 miles of their course, before they pass out of the mountainous country, the rivers of Kolhapur are fed by numerous streams. Other important rivers of the district are

Ghatprabha, Tamraparni, Shuk and Jamda. With the exception of two small tributaries namely Shuk and Jamda, all other rivers originate from Sahyadri ranges in the west, flows in general eastward direction, and drain the area through the district to the Bay of Bengal.

The Warana which takes its rise in the Sahyadris, about 13miles north of Kolhapur limits, forms the northern boundary of Kolhapur for about 80 miles.

It flows with a straight southeast course along the northern borders of Malkapur, Panhala, Alta, and Shirol and fall into the Krishna at Haripur about one mile southwest of sangli. At its meting with the Krishna, it has a Breadth of 220feet. The sloping banks of the Warana yield good cold weather crops.

The Panchganga is formed from north to south of four streams. The Kasri, the Kumbhi. The Tulasi, and the Bhogawati. The fifth stream is the underground Sarswati.the river Bhogawati is the 8 miles south west of the Kolhapur, which is the chief of the four streams. it takes its rise in the Sahyadri a few miles south of the Phonda pass. From Kolhapur the river Panchganga, about 30 miles

until it fall into the Krishna at Kurundwad. The meeting of the Bhogawati and Kasari has local sanctity, being like Allahabad known as Prayag or Triveni and being visited by large numbers of pilgrims during the cold month. The valley of the Panchganga is famous for its hay. The bed of the river is shallow and its sloping banks yield rich crops during the cold weather. The Dudhganga has its source in the Sahyadri near the Bhudargad subdivision about 35 miles southwest of Kolhapur. The Vedganga rises a few miles north of Rangana. The Hiranyakeshi takes its rise in the Amboli pass in the extreme southwest of the state.

[E] Ponds and lakes:

At Kolhapur besides the Rankala Lake, the Kalamba Lake, the padmale pond is of considerable size covering about 50 and watering about 35 acres.

[F] Geology:

Except in the south where are some ridges of sandstone and quantize, Kolhapur comes within the area of the great Deccan trap fields. The chief verities of trap are basalt, amygdaloid trap, vesicular trap and clayey trap, which, with some few intertrappean sedimentary beds and

numerous highly ferruginous clayey beds, make up the great mass of the trap- flows. In the Sahyadri region, the position of the flows is more distinct than further east. When carefully studied from some commanding point they are seen to dip at a very low angle generally to the northeast. About 25-30 miles from the edge of the Sahyadri the dip becomes easterly and so gradual as to be hardly traceable by the eye. The flows exposed in the Konkan show a very low westerly of the rivers rising in the Sahyadri region and falling into the Krishna coincides with the general dip of the trap flows.

The Greatest thickness of the trap within the south Kolhapur area may roughly be estimated at 200-2500 feet. It increases to the north. Further south the trap grows thinner for the beds forming the southern boundary of the area near the crest of the Sahyadri are high in the series and overlap by a wide space many of the underlying flows seen further north in the scarp overhanging the Konkan. The cutting along the two roads of Amboi pass and Phonda pass give almost perfectly continuous sections of the whole thickness of the trap flows they cross. The iron clay bed,

outlier of the laterite is important as being the youngest known, the most constant, and the most safely determinable member of the Deccan trap series in this quarter. This iron clay bed caps all the highest ridges, peaks in the Kolhapur hills, and may be called the summit bed. Of all the mountains, those that iron clay caps are the most perfectly table-topped and in most cases the capping is sharply scarped all round the edge. As these scarped plateaus crown all the highest hills and were easily made very strong, many of them, notably Bhudargad and Samangad were chosen by local chiefs as strongholds the view shows correspondents and extensions of the flows terraces most distinctly in all the ridges on either side of the Vedganga and in others beyond as far north as the Panhala mountain...

[G] Climate:

The climate of the district place is tropical monsoon, pleasant and healthy. Western part is always cooler than eastern. The climate of Kolhapur plain, which varies from about 2000 feet above the sea level in the west to about 1700 in the east, like the rest of the Deccan temperature, is.

Towards the Sahyadri hills, which are covered with wood and drenched during the rainy season. The air is always cooler than in the east, which during April- may and June is liable to hot easterly winds. At the same time, almost the whole territory is under the influence of a sea breeze, which sets in during the afternoon and lasts until about eight at night. The rainy months are the healthiest time in the year the strong damp breeze is always cool and pleasant and occasionally is cold. The wet season with an average, fall of about 40inches, lasts from June to October. The cold season, this lasts from November to the end of the February. The hot weather lasts from March to June. In theses, months the evenings are cooled by a sea breeze and the nights are never oppressive. During April and May the hot winds prevail, numerous hill forts, rising about 3000feet above the sea, give a pleasant retreat. Of Kolhapur, with good water and cool bracing air has been set apart as a health resort.

[H] Forests:

The wet rugged west and the high spur which stretch from the Sahyadris to near the east border of the stast, give

Kolhapur a large area suitable for forest in the subdivision of Panhala, Karveer state, and Shirol about 177 sq miles have been set apart for forests of which 122 sq. miles are reserved and 55 protected.

The forest block of the Kolhapur state may be grouped under two classes, those that belong to the main range of the Sahyadris and those that belong to the spur and valleys that strikes across the state to the northeast and east. The main line of the Sahyadris, though in places the hillsides have been stripped for wood ash tillage, has fine evergreen forests with much valuable timber. The Sahyadri forest may be roughly arranged under two groups. A smaller section in the north stretching as far south as the Anuskura pass and a large section in the south including the rest of Kolhapur Sahyadris. The northern section includes the forest land of Amba, Pandhrepani, Marshimajre, Gajapur, Yelwanjugai, other villages. These reserves are patchy and scattered, but where spread from branch lopping and reckless cutting, they are thickly stocked with evergreen trees. The chief trees are *Terminalia tomentosa*, *Nana termanilia paniculata*, jambul *Eugenia jambolana*, bava *Cassia fistula*, karmal

shevri, cher, kumb and surung. The chief division of the southern and northern section of the sahyadri are the Anuskura, Kajirda, Bavada and Phonda hills. The forest land in these hills covers an area estimated at about 160 sq. miles. The forest also contains blackwood, teak, khair, kinjal, and bamboo. The forest along the ranges and the streams that stretch east and northeast from the cool and the mist belt to the west of Kolhapur city, seldom passing more than 20 miles east of the crest of the sahyadri. There are chief nine blocks. In the north, the Warana block with an area of about 15 miles stretches along the hills to the south of the Warana in the upper part of its course. All of its area about 20 sq miles has covered with a flourishing growth of aint, jambhul, nana, etc... To the southwest of the Warana block is the Masai Pathar reserve, valuable tract of the forestland in the hill range that lies between Panhala and the Sahyadri. Asandoli block is about 20 miles from Kolhapur in a chain of hills that runs east from the sahyadri as far as the village kale. It has crossed by the Tulasi stream a feeder of the bhogawati. It is one of the best forest reserves

in the north Kolhapur, being well stocked with ain, kinjal, jambhul, nana, hirada, and other forest trees.

About 8 miles of the southeast of the Bhadara forest lands, on the banks of the Dhamni which runs northeast nearly parallel with the Bhogawati is the Man bet block. It has an area of 12 miles and is well stocked with the common forest trees mixed with ain, kinjal, hirada, bava, and Bamboo canes etc...6-12 miles east and southeast of the Manbet reserves along the banks of the Bhogawati, is a stretch of forest land known as the Mainghole reserves. It covers an area of about 25sq miles that are thickly wooded with mixed forest, the chief trees being the same which occur in other blocks. About 01 mile to the south, along the upper course of the Dhudganga, the Vaki forest range covers about 20 miles. Again, the Mhasrang block in the upper course of Vedganga is a splendid tree-producing tract. It is thickly covered with almost all kinds of trees. About 10 miles to the east, across the great Utur-Bhudargad or North Ghatprabha spur in the west of the Ajra division. It is an area of 20 miles of forestland which



are known as the Ajra block. Most of these lies within the Chaloba hill is the chief.

The chief minor products are the myrobalan or hirada berry, grass and honey. The hirada later on became an important article of trade, is bought yearly at the forest stores by wholesale dealers for export to Europe, where it is valued for dying. The hirada harvest begins early in November and at the close of February.

The yields from wild honey are chiefly confined to the reserves of Bhudargad, Pnhala, Bavda, and Vishalgad. Most of it is produced by four varieties of bees the kolambi, or agya, the satin, the pova, and the kanta.

Teak, sandle and blackwood are the property of the state and nowhere allowed to be cut.

During the last 20-30 years, the growth of roadside trees has received much attention. Almost all the chief roads are lined with rows of trees. The kinds most used are the babhul- acacia arabics, nimb- melia azadirachta, nandruk- benjamina, and the vat- banyan ficus indica and other kinds of fig. the main range of Sahyadri, their spur and valleys from important botanical pockets of high

-i- FOREST AREA OF THE KOLHAPUR DISTRICT. (YEAR 2003-2004) – sqkm.

Sr No.	division	Reserved.	Protected.	Unclassified.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Public revenue	1	1	1	3
2	Forest division	562	416	691	1669
3	Total district.	1672	417	692	1672

(Source- Mukhya Van Sanrakshak , Maharashtra state.)

ii PLANTS AND THEIR IMPORTANCE.

पुष्पसंग्रहालयासाठी निवडक प्रजाती

अ.क्र.	SCIENTIFIC NAME	स्थानिक नाव	Habit	Care	Details
१.	Bambusa arundinacea	त-कळक	Bamboo	Low	Bamboo
२.	Bambusa vulgaris	पिवळा बांबू	Bamboo	Intensive	Feng-shui
३.	Dendrocalamus brandisii	बांबू	Bamboo	Low	Bamboo
४.	Dendrocalamus strictus	भोरकळडी	Bamboo	Low	Bamboo
५.	Oxytenanthera stocksii	मानना	Bamboo	Intensive	Solid bamboo
६.	Abrus precatorius	गुंज	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
७.	Alamanda cathartica	अलामेंडा	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
८.	Aristolochia elegans	पोपटवेल	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
९.	Aristolochia ringens	पोपटवेल	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
१०.	Asparagus racemosus	शतावरी	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
११.	Beaumontia jerdoniana	भोपावेल	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental, Endangered
१२.	Bidaria khandalensis	बिदारिया	Climber	Intensive	Endangered
१३.	Celastrus paniculatus	मालकंगणी	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
१४.	Cestrum aurantiacum	दिन का राजा	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
१५.	Cestrum diurnum	दिन का राजा	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
१६.	Cestrum nocturnum	रातराणी	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
१७.	Cissampelos pareira		Climber	Low	Medicinal
१८.	Cissus quadrangularis		Climber	Low	Medicinal
१९.	Clematis gauriana	मोरवेल	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
२०.	Clematis smilaxifolia	मोरवेल	Climber	Intensive	Endangered
२१.	Clitoria ternatea var. pilosula	पांढरी मोकर्ण	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
२२.	Clitoria ternatea var. ternatea	निळी मोकर्ण	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
२३.	Elagnus conferta		Climber	Low	Medicinal
२४.	Gloriosa superba	गुरुरानी	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
२५.	Gymnema sylvestre	गुंज	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
२६.	Hemidesmus indicus	अशुगुंड	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
२७.	Hiptage madablota		Climber	Low	Medicinal
२८.	Jasminum officinale	जस	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
२९.	Momordica dioica	मोरवेल	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
३०.	Passiflora edulis	कुसुममोड	Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
३१.	Piper longum	पिंपळा	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
३२.	Pothos scandens		Climber	Intensive	Ornamental
३३.	Rubia cordifolia	रुबी	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
३४.	Smilax zeylenica		Climber	Low	Medicinal
३५.	Stephania japonica		Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
३६.	Tinospora cordifolia		Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
३७.	Tinospora sinensis		Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
३८.	Toddalia asiatica		Climber	Low	Medicinal
३९.	Tylophora asiamatica	तिगुळा	Climber	Intensive	Medicinal
४०.	Cycas circinalis	सुकास	Cycas	Intensive	Ornamental
४१.	Cycas revoluta	सुकास	Cycas	Intensive	Ornamental
४२.	Adiantum		Fern	Intensive	Medicinal

	<i>Nephrolepis</i>		Fern	Intensive	Ornamental
	<i>Nephrolepis</i>		Fern	Intensive	Ornamental
	<i>Polypodium</i>		Fern	Intensive	Ornamental
४६.	<i>Pteris</i>		Fern	Intensive	Ornamental
४७.		कोरियन ग्रास	Grass	Intensive	Ornamental
४८.	<i>Cymbopogon</i>	शिदोलेता	Grass	Intensive	Medicinal
४९.	<i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>	भवती चहा	Grass	Intensive	Medicinal
५०.	<i>Paspalum</i>	पासपालम	Grass	Intensive	Ornamental
५१.	<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>	खस	Grass	Intensive	Medicinal
५२.	<i>Rhynchosyris retusa</i>		Orchids	Intensive	Ornamental
५३.	<i>Dendrobium barbetum</i>		Orchids	Intensive	Ornamental
५४.	<i>Acampe praemorsa</i>		Orchids	Intensive	Ornamental
५५.	<i>Aerides crispum</i>		Orchids	Intensive	Ornamental
५६.	<i>Eulophia nuda</i>	अमरकंद	Orchids	Intensive	Medicinal
५७.	<i>Caryota urens</i>	भेलता माड	Palm	Intensive	Medicinal
५८.	<i>Chrysalidocarpus lutescens</i>	अरेकापाम	Palm	Intensive	Ornamental
५९.	<i>Licuala grandis</i>		Palm	Intensive	Ornamental
६०.	<i>Livistonia chinensis</i>		Palm	Intensive	Ornamental
६१.	<i>Phoenix robusta</i>	-----	Palm	Intensive	Ornamental
६२.	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i>		Pines	Intensive	Ornamental
६३.	<i>Juniperous erecta</i>		Pines	Intensive	Ornamental
६४.	<i>Pinus carebea</i>		Pines	Intensive	Ornamental
६५.	<i>Connarus monocarpus</i>		Shrub	Low	Medicinal
६६.	<i>Acacia concinna</i>	शिकेकाई	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
६७.	<i>Acorus calamus</i>	वेखंड	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
६८.	<i>Adhatoda vasica</i>	अडुळसा	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
६९.	<i>Artabotrys hexapetalous</i>	हिरवा चाफा	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
७०.	<i>Artemisia nilagirica</i>	दवणा	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
७१.	<i>Barleria cristata var. cristata</i>	कोरांटी	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
७२.	<i>Barleria cristata var. dichotoma</i>	कोरांटी	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
७३.	<i>Barleria cuspidata</i>	कोरांटी	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
७४.	<i>Barleria grandiflora</i>	कोरांटी	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
७५.	<i>Barleria lawii</i>	कोरांटी	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
७६.	<i>Barleria prionitis</i>	कोरांटी	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
७७.	<i>Bauhinia blackiana</i>		Shrub	Intensive	Ornamental
७८.	<i>Bougainvillea spectabilis</i>	बोगनवेल	Shrub	Intensive	Ornamental
७९.	<i>Brassia actinophylla</i>		Shrub	Intensive	Ornamental
८०.	<i>Breynia retusa</i>	कांगळी	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
८१.	<i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i>	गजगा	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
८२.	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>	बॉटलब्रश	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
८३.	<i>Carissa carandus</i>	करवंद	Shrub	Low	Fruit
८४.	<i>Carissa inermis</i>	रेडेकरवंद	Shrub	Low	Fruit
८५.	<i>Cassia biflora</i>		Shrub	Low	Ornamental
८६.	<i>Citrus aurantifolia</i>	लिंबू	Shrub	Intensive	Fruit
८७.	<i>Citrus aurantium</i>	नारंगी	Shrub	Intensive	Fruit
८८.	<i>Citrus limon</i>	ईडलिंबू	Shrub	Intensive	Fruit
८९.	<i>Clerodendrum serratum</i>	गारंगी	Shrub	Low	Medicinal

	<i>Stereodendrum viscosum</i>	हजारी मोगरा	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
	<i>Coffea arabica</i>	कॉफी	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
	<i>Costus speciosus</i>	-----	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
93.	<i>Crateva adansonii</i>	वायवर्णा	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
94.	<i>Croton oblongifolius</i>	घणसर	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
95.	<i>Croton tiglium</i>	जमातगोटा	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
96.	<i>Eugenia aromaticum</i>	लवंग	Shrub	Intensive	Spice
97.	<i>Euphorbia antiquorum</i>	तिनघारी निवडुंग	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
98.	<i>Gardenia jasminoides</i>	अनंत	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
99.	<i>Glycosmis pentaphylla</i>		Shrub	Low	Medicinal
100.	<i>Hamamelidium platyclados</i>	-----	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
101.	<i>Hamiltonia suaveolens</i>	जितसाया	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
102.	<i>Helicteres isora</i>	मुरुडशेंग	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
103.	<i>Hibiscus mutabilis</i>	जास्वंद	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
104.	<i>Hibiscus rosa sinensis</i>	जास्वंद	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
105.	<i>Hibiscus schizopetalus</i>	जास्वंद	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
106.	<i>Holarrhena pubescens</i>	पांढरा कुडा	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
107.	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>		Shrub	Intensive	Ornamental
108.	<i>Jasminum sambac</i>	मोगरा	Shrub	Intensive	Ornamental
109.	<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i>		Shrub	Low	Medicinal
110.	<i>Lagerstromia indica</i>	-----	Shrub	Intensive	Ornamental
111.	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i>	मेंदी	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
112.	<i>Leea asiatica</i>		Shrub	Low	Medicinal
113.	<i>Morus alba</i>	तुतु	Shrub	Intensive	Fruit
114.	<i>Murraya koenigii</i>	कढीपत्ता	Shrub	Low	Spice
115.	<i>Musseanda frondosa</i>	भुतकेस	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
116.	<i>Nothapodytes nimmoniana</i>	नख्या	Shrub	Low	Medicinal, Endangered
117.	<i>Plumbago rubra</i>	चित्रक	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
118.	<i>Plumbago zeylenica</i>	चित्रक पांढरा	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
119.	<i>Rauvolfia serpentina</i>	सर्पगंधा	Shrub	Intensive	Medicinal
120.	<i>Schefflera elliptica</i>		Shrub	Low	Medicinal
121.	<i>Tabernaemontana coronaria</i>	तगर	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
122.	<i>Tacoma stans</i>	टॅकोमा	Shrub	Low	Ornamental
123.	<i>Thespesia lampas</i>		Shrub	Low	Medicinal
124.	<i>Thevetia nerifolia</i>		Shrub	Low	Ornamental
125.	<i>Vitex negundo</i>	निरगुडी	Shrub	Low	Medicinal
126.	<i>Acacia catechu</i>	खैर	Tree	Low	Medicinal
127.	<i>Acrocarpus fraxinifolius</i>	अँकोकार्पस	Tree	Low	Timber
128.	<i>Adansonia digitata</i>	गोरख तिंत	Tree	Low	Medicinal
129.	<i>Adina cordifolia</i>	हळदु	Tree	Low	Timber
130.	<i>Adreya</i>	अड्रेया	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
131.	<i>Aegle marmelos</i>	बेल	Tree	Low	Medicinal
132.	<i>Ailanthus excelsa</i>	महारश्म	Tree	Low	Medicinal
133.	<i>Alangium salvifolium</i>	अंकोळ	Tree	Low	Medicinal
134.	<i>Albizzia lebeck</i>	शिरिष	Tree	Low	Ornamental
135.	<i>Alstonia macrophylla</i>	सातविण	Tree	Low	Medicinal
136.	<i>Alstonia scholaris</i>	सातविण	Tree	Low	Medicinal

	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>	काजू	Tree	Low	Fruit
	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	फणस	Tree	Low	Fruit
	<i>Artocarpus incisus</i>	निरफणस	Tree	Low	Fruit
१४०.	<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>	बिलंबी	Tree	Low	Fruit
१४१.	<i>Averrhoa carambola</i>	कमरबोळ	Tree	Low	Fruit
१४२.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	नीम	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१४३.	<i>Balanites aegyptica</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
१४४.	<i>Barringtonia acutangula</i>	समुद्र फळ	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१४५.	<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i>	कांचन	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१४६.	<i>Bauhinia racemosa</i>	आपटा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१४७.	<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	कांचन	Tree	Low	Ornamental
१४८.	<i>Bixa orellana</i>	बिकसा, शेदरी	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१४९.	<i>Bombax ceiba</i>	सावर	Tree	Low	Timber
१५०.	<i>Boswellia serrata</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
१५१.	<i>Buchanania lanzan</i>	चारोळी	Tree	Low	Fruit
१५२.	<i>Bursera penicillata</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
१५३.	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	पळस	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१५४.	<i>Calophyllum inophyllum</i>	उंडी	Tree	Intensive	Medicinal
१५५.	<i>Careya arborea</i>	जुंग्गा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१५६.	<i>Cassia fistula</i>	बहावा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१५७.	<i>Cassia javanica</i>		Tree	Low	Ornamental
१५८.	<i>Castanospermum australe</i>	ऑस्ट्रेलियन चेस्टनट	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
१५९.	<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	सुरु	Tree	Low	Timber
१६०.	<i>Chukrasia tubularis</i>	चक्रासी	Tree	Intensive	Timber
१६१.	<i>Cinnamomum tamala</i>	तमालपत्र	Tree	Low	Spice
१६२.	<i>Cinnamomum verum</i>	दालचिनी	Tree	Intensive	Spice
१६३.	<i>Citharexylum spinosum</i>	शितारंजन	Tree	Low	Ornamental
१६४.	<i>Citrus medica</i>	महाळुंग	Tree	Low	Fruit
१६५.	<i>Clusia rosea</i>	क्लुसिया	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
१६६.	<i>Cordia dichotoma</i>	गोकर	Tree	Low	Fruit
१६७.	<i>Couropita guianensis</i>	कैलासपती	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
१६८.	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i>	शिसम	Tree	Low	Timber
१६९.	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	शिरू	Tree	Low	Timber
१७०.	<i>Delonix regia</i>	गुलागोहर	Tree	Low	Ornamental
१७१.	<i>Dillenia indica</i>	मोठा करंबळ	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१७२.	<i>Dillenia pentagyna</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
१७३.	<i>Diospyros embryopteris</i>	तैदू	Tree	Low	Fruit
१७४.	<i>Dysoxylum binectariferum</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
१७५.	<i>Elaeocarpus serratus</i>	रुद्राक्षी	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
१७६.	<i>Emblia officinalis</i>	आवळा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१७७.	<i>Eriolaena quinquelocularis</i>		Tree	Low	Fruit
१७८.	<i>Erythrina stricta</i>	पांगार	Tree	Low	Ornamental
१७९.	<i>Erythrina variegata</i>	पांगार	Tree	Low	Ornamental
१८०.	<i>Eugenia jambolana</i>	जाम	Tree	Low	Fruit
१८१.	<i>Feronia elephantum</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
८२.	<i>Ficus amplissima</i>	पिंपरण	Tree	Low	Ornamental
८३.	<i>Ficus arnottiana</i>	पारिश	Tree	Low	Medicinal

	<i>Ficus auriculata</i>	-----	Tree	Low	Ornamental
	<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	चड	Tree	Low	Medicinal
	<i>Ficus exasperata</i>	करवथ	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१८७.	<i>Ficus hispida</i>	काळा उंबर	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१८८.	<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	नांदुळक	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१८९.	<i>Ficus racemosa</i>	उंबर	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१९०.	<i>Ficus religiosa</i>	पिंपळ	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१९१.	<i>Flacourtia indica</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
१९२.	<i>Garcinia indica</i>	कोकम	Tree	Low	Fruit
१९३.	<i>Garcinia xanthochymus</i>	पांढरा सोल	Tree	Low	Fruit
१९४.	<i>Gmelina arborea</i>	शिवण	Tree	Low	Timber
१९५.	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>	सिल्बुहर ओक	Tree	Low	Ornamental
१९६.	<i>Grewia asiatica</i>	फालसा	Tree	Intensive	Fruit
१९७.	<i>Heterophragma quadriloculare</i>	वारस	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१९८.	<i>Holigarna grahamii</i>	रागबिंबा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
१९९.	<i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i>	वावळा	Tree	Intensive	Medicinal
२००.	<i>Jacaranda acutifolia</i>	निलमोहर	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२०१.	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i>	खाया	Tree	Low	Timber
२०२.	<i>Kigelia pinnata</i>	-----	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
२०३.	<i>Kydia calycina</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२०४.	<i>Lagerstromia lanceolata</i>	नाना	Tree	Low	Timber
२०५.	<i>Lagerstromia parviflora</i>	बांदरा	Tree	Low	Timber
२०६.	<i>Lagerstromia reginae</i>	जारुळ	Tree	Low	Timber
२०७.	<i>Macaranga peltata</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२०८.	<i>Madhuca latifolia</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२०९.	<i>Mallotus philippensis</i>	कुंकुफळ	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२१०.	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	आंबा	Tree	Low	Fruit
२११.	<i>Manihot glaziovii</i>	सिएश रबर	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२१२.	<i>Mellingtonia hortensis</i>	बुघ	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२१३.	<i>Memecylon umbellatum</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२१४.	<i>Mesua ferrca</i>	नामचापरा	Tree	Intensive	Medicinal
२१५.	<i>Michelia champaca</i>	चाफा	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२१६.	<i>Mimusops elengi</i>	बकुळ	Tree	Low	Fruit
२१७.	<i>Muntingia calabura</i>		Tree	Low	Fruit
२१८.	<i>Mytragyna parviflora</i>	कळम	Tree	Low	Timber
२१९.	<i>Neolamarkia cadamba</i>	कदंब	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२२०.	<i>Ochna obtusata</i>		Tree	Low	Ornamental
२२१.	<i>Ochrocarpus longifolius</i>	सुरंगी	Tree	Intensive	Medicinal
२२२.	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i>	टेदु	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२२३.	<i>Peltoforum pterocarpum</i>	पेल्टोफोरम	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२२४.	<i>Plumeria alba</i>		Tree	Low	Ornamental
२२५.	<i>Plumeria rubra</i>		Tree	Low	Ornamental
२२६.	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२२७.	<i>Prunus ceylanicus</i>	डाळा	Tree	Intensive	Ornamental
२२८.	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i>	बीजा	Tree	Low	Timber
२२९.	<i>Putranjiva roxburghii</i>	पुत्रंजिव	Tree	Intensive	Medicinal
२३०.	<i>Radermachera xylocarpa</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal

	<i>Santalum album</i>	चंदन	Tree	Low	Medicinal
	<i>Sapindus emargiantus</i>	रिठा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
4.	<i>Saraca asoka</i>	सिता अशोक	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२३४.	<i>Semecarpus anacardium</i>	बिब्बा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२३५.	<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>	रपेशोदिया	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२३६.	<i>Spondias mangifera</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२३७.	<i>Sterculia foetida</i>	जंगली बदाम	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२३८.	<i>Stereospermum chelenoides</i>	पाडल	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२३९.	<i>Strychnos nux-vomica</i>	काजरा	Tree	Intensive	Medicinal
२४०.	<i>Swietenia mahogany</i>	महोगनी	Tree	Low	Timber
२४१.	<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	जांभळ	Tree	Low	Fruit
२४२.	<i>Tabebuia argentea</i>	टंबेबुथीया	Tree	Low	Ornamental
२४३.	<i>Tamarindus indica</i>	चिंच	Tree	Low	Fruit
२४४.	<i>Tectona grandis</i>	सागवान	Tree	Low	Timber
२४५.	<i>Terminalia arjuna</i>	अर्जुन	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२४६.	<i>Terminalia belerica</i>	बेहडा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२४७.	<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	हिरडा	Tree	Low	Medicinal
२४८.	<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>	ऐन	Tree	Low	Timber
२४९.	<i>Thespesia populnea</i>		Tree	Low	Medicinal
२५०.	<i>Vangueria spinosa</i>	आळू	Tree	Low	Fruit

biodiversity. The northeast and east stretches of Sahyadri support luxuriant growth of vegetation. Thus, it is probably the richest district in biodiversity of Maharashtra state.

[I] Flora of Kolhapur District:

Kolhapur, the extreme southern district of Maharashtra state. It possesses high plant diversity and luxuriant vegetation. About 1250 species and 643 genera belonging to 151 families of flowering plants were recorded for the district. Over 2227 species belonging to 1023 genera of 182 families.

[J] Vegetation:

The vegetation of the district can be grouped under four major vegetation type as below.

tropical semi evergreen forest:

These forests are occurring in patches along the upper elevation of the Ghat, above 500 meters altitude in main range of Sahyadri. These forests are found in the western Ghat of the district viz. Amba, Dajipur, Gaganbavada, Patgaon, tillari and Udegiri. Common psecies of the forest are- Aporosa lindleyana, bridelia retusa, callicarpa



tomentosa, calopbyllum apetallum. Common shrubs are-
Ancistrocladus beyneanus, blachia denudate etc....

Tropical moist deciduous forests:

Spread in ajra, Malakapur, Radhanagri, Gargoti nad
Gadhinglj region.

Tropical dry deciduous forests:

It found in the eastern part of the district. They are
distributed in Panhala, Bhudargad, Lakudwadi,, Nesari, and
Kagal.

open shrub jungle:

These are found in Kagal, Karveer and hatkanangale.
They are represented at Bahubali and Ramling area. The
vegetation is composed of shrubby and thorny species with
few small trees.

[K] Grassland:

These are found around Hatkanangale, Hupari,
Jaysingpur, Kagal, kolhapur, Kumbhoj and Ganeshwadi.

The vegetation is there along river and stream banks,
steam and river beds, along ponds and lakes, there are
numbers of permanent water bodies at Kagal, Kalamba,
Shiroli, Radhanagari supporting growth of true aquatics,

addition to this, there are numerous water loving plants which grows in marshy places. Certain places which prefer to grown on Rocky substratum with shallow steep slopes of westernmost main crest of Sahyadri support growth of number of rare and endemic species. There are more than 200 sacred groves in the district, directly or indirectly these help in the conservation of biodiversity.

[L] Economically important plants:

- Cereal crops
- Pulses.
- Leaf vegetables
- Root and tuber vegetables.
- Fruit.
- roadside and garden trees

[M] Medicinal plants:

Kolhapur district has over 600 plant species of therapeutic value. The floristic study of the area revealed that of the total taxa endemic to peninsula India 694 are found in Maharashtra, of which 340 occur in the district.

[N] Threatened plants:

257 species are reported to be threaten for the state of Maharashtra, of which 136 found in the district.

[O] Wild Animals:

Gaurs bears, leopards, and Sambar are found in the the forest of Kolhapur district. The wild animals are there in the leading spurs. The increase of population and spread of tillage have reduced their numbers, but tigers and still find shelter in western Kolhapur. The large Panthers Known as tendva is more common occurring in the forest and hills of Bhudargad, Panhala, and Malakapur.

Three different varieties of wild cats occur in the forest. The wild dog klsunda Coun rutilans is found in the forest, the wild Indian black bear Asval urusus labiatus is occassionly found in Bhudargad and near Bavada and in Udgiri in Vshalgad.

The wild Animals Boar Dukar is found in the hill parts of bhudargad, Panhala, Malakapur and Torgal. The Bison Gaurs found in the Barki, Vasi, and Udgiri hills etc... the spotted dear Cheetah is found in the forest hills of Vasundi

and Aduli in Bhudargad and Kaljvde, pisatri and Manvad in Panhala. The Indian kalvitAntelope bezoartica moves in bands of five to ten in the open parts of Raybahg, and Shirol and Datwad. Of smaller animals, the hare sasa lepus ruficaudatus is found in all parts the state. Hares and foxes in the small hills found Kolhapur and Panhala give excellent coursing which is a favourite amusement with the higher Maratha families. Monkeys are found in alarge numbers all over the state. The Vanar the larger and more powerful ani,mal is generally seen near villages while the makad prefers forest and lovely places.

The hilly area and the part if the Kolhapur city especially Bavda, Vishalgad, and Bhudargad are more or less infested with snakes both poisonous and harmless. These are various kinds- Dutona, Dhaman, Virola. Manyar, nag, phursa etc...

[P] Fisheries:

There are various kind of fish found in the pools of the Panchganaga, Warana, Hiranyakeshi, Dudhaganga, and Vedganga. Aligators and turtle are found in the larger streams and freshwater crabs in the banks of rivers. The

chief kind of fish are air, vamb, maral, kolsi, takri, kharab, dokara, muli, bobari, etc... The fisheries of the state are of little importance. The women and men carry the fish to the market or hawk them from door to door; fishers use casting and drag nets. The rankala, Padmale, ravaneshwar, kotitirth, a other big ponds round Kolhapur abound in fish which are preserved for palace use.

Most of the birds given by Captain E.A. Butler in his catalogue of the Deccan and southern Maratha country are in Kolhapur.

3.5 Places of Interest in the selected area and their ecological importance.

1. New Palace:

History

A Royal palace has designed by Major Mant, a British architecture. It took seven years to complete it, from 1877 to 1884, and cost about seven lakhs of rupees. It has an octagonal tower in the centre, commonly known as the clock tower, about 25ft. broad (outside dimension) and 135ft. high. At the back is an open square with a fountain in the centre and an enclosed verandah arcade and rooms on all

sides of the chowk. The palace has designed with an exquisite grace of outline, which characterizes the mixed Hindu style of architecture and has ornamented with a profusion of elaborate detail, which presents itself to the utmost advantage. The Darbar hall is particularly grand. It has very beautiful stained windows depicting various episodes on the life of Shivaji The great, which is the work of an Italian artist. The construction of the palace is in the Indo-arsenic style.

Geographical Location / Position

The New Palace is on the Bavada road near the residency.

Ecological Importance of the Place

The palace has beautiful grounds and garden, so it is the most famous sight in the town. There is a small zoo and a small lake. This lake has created especially for this zoo. Near this zoo and lake, a small green belt is there which increases the natural beauty of this place. An area of the Palace is full of greenery at the roadside. In other words, the 'New Palace' has lush green parts a rich flora. Therefore, the spot is picturesque

A royal palace partly converted into an unforgettable museum. The museum houses rare paintings and artifacts used by the royal family.

The lake / water body near the zoo is a hub of lot many foreign birds (migrated). Viz. egrates. The place will be very good birds watching park / sanctuary inside the city, which will definitely attract Indian / foreign history and nature lovers bird watchers and can highly promote this palace as one of the best eco tourist spot

2. Rankala Lake

History

Of all the places of interest in Kolhapur, Rankala is perhaps the most popular. The lake has named after the God Rankbhairav, who is said to have been a great favorite with Mahalaxmi and to have a gold temple, now hidden under the water of the lake. The beginning of the Rankala lake is said to have been a quarry from which according to

the Jains, including the temple of Ambabai, stones were supplied to 360 Bastis or Jain temples built by a Jain Raja Gandharaditya. Afterwards in the eight or ninth century an earthquake is said to have enlarged the quarry and filled it with water.

Geographical Position

Rankala is a lake at the southwestern end of the city. It has a radius of 2.5 miles to 3 miles and depth of 35ft. (approximately).

Ecological Importance

The Rankala Lake is the proof of ancient historical incidents happened in 8th and 9th century. In the ancient time, it was a big black stoned 'khun' or quarry; it transformed it into a beautiful lake as water flows from the earth and surface. This beautiful wide and spacious lake has a beautiful garden at its side. The lake receives water from two streams in the north, north south flows of water and steams. So the lake never becomes dry. Therefore, it is referred as natural lake. The water of the lake is now used mainly for irrigation and about 350 acres are irrigated. There is a beautiful structure called Rankala tower. Near

the tower is the Rajghat, a flight of broad steps leading to the water. On the northern bank of the lake stands the beautiful Shalini Palace with its beautiful garden. On the eastern side and slightly in the lake stands the Sandhyamath. It is an old structure in crumbling stage. It is almost submerged in water during the monsoon and almost fully seen in the summer when the water in the lake reaches its lowest level.

Within the last ten years, area of Rankala has developed by designing various plans for electricity, boring, for the maintenance of garden, maintenance of water streams, etc.... The place has become more attractive because of all these changes.

At the backside of the lake elephant, horses, ducks have kept and few fun games have set up for the entertainment of children and the People.

The lake has now owned by Government and is managed by the public works department.

The natural flow of water, a beautiful side garden and Shalini Palace increases the beauty of the lake and so that people go for enjoying or scrolling in the evening.

This natural garden attracts the joggers by its purified and fresh air during the morning and evening. Fishing and bird watching also attracts the people including the botanical students, which are interested to study the water plants, water body. One more addition to this garden is a very nearly located Shalini Sine ton, which is one of the oldest film studios where the eminent personality Dadasaheb Phalke worked for his movies. Now a day Shalini Palace provides accommodation to foreign visitors / tourists visiting Rankala. Being three star hotels it provides luxurious facilities to the tourists from all over India.

3. The Shalini Palace

History

It was built between 1931 and 1934 at a cost of Rs.800000/-. It is a modern construction in Indo saracenic style of architecture. The palace has richly decorated inside and has lavishly furnished. It is a rectangular double storied

structure with foursquare towers surmounted by domes at the corners.

Geographical position

The Shalini palace stands on the northern bank of Rankala lake.

Ecological Importance

As Taj Mahal sees its image in the river Yamuna, just like, Shalini Palace sees its beautiful face in the water of Ranakala Lake. So that is attracts many painters and photographers. The Palace is surrounded by beautiful nature and garden. The palace is famous for its beauty huge building and its wonderful architecture.

4. Town Hall

History

The beautiful building is in Gothic style with two spires and a steep roof. The Narayandas Maharaj who came here in 1894 and built this rest house like building with country-tiled roof constructed this building. The hall is spacious enough to seat 500 persons. This spacious hall is simple and has no ornate carvings or decorations consist of a large central hall and gallery with two rooms and spacious

verandah in the front. There is a fine porch with a terrace over it, joined to the hall and gallery.

The image of Ganpati has carved on the lintel of the temple. There is a small mandap of recent construction before the temple. Inside the temple, there is a pindi or ling of Mahadeo.

There are different stories about how the place came to be called Kotitirth. Kotitirth is the tirth or holy tank established by Puskareshwar at Karveer.

Geographical position

This beautiful building has situated near the civil hospital on the Bhausingji road.

Ecological Importance

The town hall stands in the extensive and beautiful town hall garden. On the southern side, there is a sort of mangroves and building. In front of this building there is a small ghat going up to the edge of the water.

At the town hall, Antiques found during the excavations at Bramhapuri, old sculptures filigree work in

sandalwood and ivory, old coins and paintings of master artists of the region are displayed here.

5. Shivaji University

History

Shivaji University has established in 1962, Satara, Kolhapur, Solapur and Sangli districts comes under the university. The University has established in 1000 acre of land with its various departments. The establishment of Shivaji University is an important contribution in the field of education of Maharashtra.

The building has constructed very skillfully with the statue of Chatrapati Shivaji Maharaj in front. The establishment of university opened an opportunity of education especially for the rural students.

Geographical Position

Shivaji University is on Pune – Bangalore highway, established in 1000 area of land.

Ecological importance

In front of this skillful construction of university, there is ground with beautiful garden and the statue of Ch. Shivaji Maharaj. The road sides trees throughout the land. An area of university includes beautiful gardens, many flower plants and species, no. of trees. The university area is very crowded with greenery, having a university place and huge area around includes rare medical the plants and species. An acres of land is barren is there in Shivaji University, which can be easily converted into ecotourism park / ecological spot which will help to all botanical environmental and ecological students. In addition, it can motivate them for creating such parks in and around their native places.

6. Panchaganga Ghat

History

Panchaganga Ghat is the holy place, where the third Ch. Shivaji's temple is situated which is very peculiar and established in 1885. This place is also famous for holy bath.

Geographical Location / position

It is on the bank of the river Panchaganga near Shivaji Bridge.

Ecological Importance

A set of temples are located on the bank of river Panchaganga. 'Shivaji pool' is the nearest bridge to this spot, which is constructed by Britishers to connect Konkan and Kolhapur. The history has derived that the presence of ancient civilization, which attracts archeological students, team India / world, which may visit the place for updating their studies. The area is picturesque and full of natural beauty. Bramhapuri hill is very near to this Ghat, which is an ancient place of Kolhapur. Many painters have attracted towards this spot because of the beautiful natural sight.

7. Mahalaxmi Temple

History

Kolhapur is known as Dakshine Kashi because of its deity Mahalaxmi. The Chalukay King Karnadeva in 634A.D built the temple. The temple is very old. The main portion of the building is of two storeys and has built of black stone brought from local quarries. The spire and domes of this temple are said to have been added by a Shankaracharya of Sankeshwar. The Jain declare that the temple was a Jain temple dedicated to Padmavati and that the spire and



domes are Brahmnic additions. The architecture of the building supports the claim of the Jain to be its original possessors. The temple is in the form of a cross and has built with the mortar less close fitting large blocks of stone known in the Deccan as the Hemadpanti style. There are four entrances. Nagarkhana or drum chamber is the main entrance. The northern gate has a large bell, which rung five times a day. The body of the temple has built of local black trap without the help of any timber. Under the big dome on the east is installed the image of Ambabai / Mahalaxmi. At the sides, two smaller domes enclose images of Mahakali and Mahasarswati. The main temple is surrounded by a stone wall in which are a number other shrines including shrines of Dattraya, Vithoba, Kashi-Vishveshwar Ram, and Radha Krishna.

Geographical Position

The temple of Mahalaxmi is the largest and the most important temple among the temples of Kolhapur, is in the

middle of the town about a hundred yards north west of the state palace.

Ecological Importance

Mahalaxmi temple is located at the heart of a city and visited by number of pilgrims, tourists and visitors from all around countryside. Due to which the neighboring ecotourists spots like Rankala, New Palace etc. will be visited by few of these people. At it is, the architectural people are visiting the temple from throughout the world to see the famous and unique sunlight show (Kiranostav) which also can increase the number of tourists, which also promotes neighboring ecotourists spot.

8. Temblai Hill Temple Garden

History

According to the Karveer or Kolhapur Puran, Temblai the younger sister of Mahalaxmi, in consequence of a quarrel with Mahalaxmi left kolhapur about 1800 years ago, and retired to a hill called Temblai. Ambabai is said to pay

her sister one visit a year on the bright fifth of Ashwin or September -October. On this day, a fair held on the hill in honor of the goddess.

Geographical Position

The Temblai hill is about 3 miles to the east of the city Kolhapur.

Ecological Importance

The temple has situated on hill where always a fresh air comes. Temple has surrounded by trees, which are big in their circumference where there is a small garden has maintained the temple on hill itself represents the natural beauty of the sight. One can feel fresh in the evening by visiting this place. Near to this temple, there is military station and huge area around the temple belongs to Army. This area is cultivated but the scope of improvement to upgrade this place as eco-tourists spot is there. It will change the height of Temblai hills in Kolhapur city's map. The viewpoint present at Temblai hill can give a beautiful scenic view of Kolhapur city.

9. Gangawesh Dudh Katta

History

This Dudh Katta is there especially for wrestlers. Today there is selling of Milk in polythene, but still in Kolhapur customer can have milk at this Ganagawesh dudh katta and they can go for their work. After having a fresh milk at Gangawesh one can feel pleasant and enthusiastic. At a timer from the 100 buffalos milkman collects milk and they sell it. This are always remain crowded and called as 'Haiya'

Kolhapur is famous for wrestlers as Shahu Maharaj promoted this game quite a long ago for which he started few milk spots in Kolhapur, one of which still exists and that is Gangawesh Dudh Katta.

Geographical Position

It is on the way of Mahalaxmi temple to Panchganga River via Papachi Tickti.

Ecological Importance

The only place where the fresh milk is available and it is unique too, That, one can easily attracts. By this way, we are maintaining our ancient tradition of hospitality, which also promotes the ecological development of city.

3.6 Place of Interest around the Kolhapur / Selected area and their ecological importance.

1. Panhala Fort

History

Panhalgad has mentioned in 'Karveer Mahatmya' Karveer Puran. It has known from 3rd century B.C. It has built during the region of Shilahar King Bhojraj Narsimha. The history of Panhala is also the history of Marathas. Panhala is redolent with memories of Shivaji. Panhala is the only fort where Shivaji spent more than 500 days. It was Maratha state capital until 1782 and in 1827 it went to the British the fort was raided by Shivaji in 1959., but it was not until 1673 that he was able to occupy it permanently. Traditionally, Panhala is the residence of Parashar. Panhala is a little known hill fort near Kolhapur with a rich historical heritage dotted with ancient fortification and buildings which have witnessed the rise and fall to the Maratha empire. The fort is about four and half miles in circumference. It is a famous hill station in Maharashtra, endowed with both mythological as well as historical importance as it is a mute witness to many important incidents in lives of the great Shivajiraje, Sambhajiraje, Tararani, Baji Prabhu Deshpande etc.

Geographical Position

Panhala lies on the Sahyadri mountain Range and has situated in the Kolhapur district of Maharashtra. It is about 23.7Km to the northwest of Kolhapur on the Kolhapur - Ratnagiri road and is at an altitude of 3127ft. above sea level and about 1300ft. above the Kolhapur plain and the hill top which the Panhala fort crowns rises about 275 feet above the uplands. Panhala has situated on 16048' north latitude and 7408' longitude in east.

- **Important Places to visit at Panhala**

Ambarkhana

It has built by the Marathas and it houses the palace, the administrative division and the granary. The granaries were necessary since grain needed to be stored in case of famines and other calamities. Titled Ganga, Jamuna, and Sarswati, the granarius could store as much as 25000 of Khandis of grain.

Teen Darwaja

The three gates that provides access to the fort.

Sajja Kothi

It was built by the Mohammedans in 1008 A.D. There is a very interesting anecdote attached to this monument. It is said that when Siddi Johar, a formidable Bijapur General, attacked Panhala, Shivaji tricked the general by escaping from the window of Sajja Kothi while a brave stalwart Shiva Kashid disguised as Shivaji combated the wrath of the general.

The Ambabai Temple

Chatrapati Shivaji a religious devotee did not undertake any perils without praying obeisance to the goddess. The Ambabai temple stands vigil to this.

The Sambhaji Temple

It was built in memory of Sambhaji, the first ruler of Kolhapur.

The Someshwar Tank

This too is worth visiting the tank came into existence due to the quarrying of stones that were required for the construction of the fort wall. There is a very well camouflaged well with a three-tiered structure on top. Moreover, has Andhar Bav. This was their to prevent any kind of water poisoning by the enemy.

The Nayakini Sajja

It manifests the intelligent warfare strategy used by the Marathas to dupe the enemies. It has been very strategically located near one of the corners of the fort to conceal a deep ravine in between.

Some other places to visit of Panhala

Pusati Buruj

Colour Changing 'Shivlinga'

Darugola Kothar

Char darwaja

Harihareshwar temple

Shri Vittal temple

Parashar caves etc.....

Ecological Importance

The verdant hills, the terraced farms and the omnipresent mist below Panhala with a unique allure a mystic. The aerial roots of the Banyan tree that flank the road from a beautiful archway a prelude to the royal remains of the fort to come. Panhala commands a Panoramic and awesome view of the valley below.

Panhala is an enchanting place peaceful beyond imagination free from pollution and scenic enough to overwhelm our senses. A hill station with fascinating and fresh landscapes. Panhala is an ideal gateway from the routine congestion. This is a charming place of both historical and religious significance and is a major escape from the land of concrete to the land of greenery. This place offers mesmerizing views of the nearby valleys. The land is ideal tracking destination too.

The weather in Panhala is salubrious throughout the year except July and August. Panhala fort crowns one of the top of the Panhala spur of the Sahyadris. The hilltop is pleasantly broken and adorned with cliffs, pools and shady springs. Except during the rains the climate is delightful the days cool, and the nights fresh. The fort is famous for its freedom from cholera chiefly because of its plentiful supply of pure iron charged water of Nagzari.

Of the ruins on the hill top one of the lodes is the citadel in centre of the fort surrounded by high ruined walls enclosing a tangled growth of jack mango, guava and other trees and bushes

Panhalgad the famous hill fort stands with its natural beauty and historical importance one can see many firs also in this region sufficient rains and irrigation facilities made the soil fertile. The area of Panhalgad is enriched with many historical buildings rare plants, wild animals' birds and green hills. It is proud of its people who play on traditional musical instruments can fight with swords who can sing bajans, powadas and have various hobbies.

Because of its plain spacious circumference, Panhala has a lot of building lakes and trees. Many tourists are attracted to the thrill of trekking in these days. Greenery serene landscape birds cool and fresh air, calm and serene atmosphere delight the tourists. It always work and encourages the trekkers, tourists poets, artists, etc.....

Near the dutondi Buruj the straight way goes to Tabak Udyan which is always full of tourists. There are many rare plants have kept in this garden. These plants have kept with their names so that one can get the information about it.

There is a snake park also.

By visiting 'Sadar-E-Mahal' we can see the beautiful nature spreaded around the place.

2. Pawankhind and Masai pathar

History

A fort as a dummy and guard to Panhalgad the residential place of Rishi Markandeya (a saint) at Pavangad is known as 'Lagud Bandh' there is a mousoleum of Hajrat jahangir Husen.

Georgraphical location

Pavangad / Khind is 3kms. Away from Panhala

Ecological Importance

Panhala fort and fort Pavangad both are separated only because of a valley. This is also a nature creation having dense forest. The fort though deserted has a good water supply. One can feel fresh and enthusiastic while climbing this fort just because of natural beauty available over there. A Pavan Khind located on a trekking way from Panhala to Vishalgad. Totally place is surrounded by forest / thick vegetation. The nature lowers are frequently visiting this place. As we start from Panhala to Vishalgad there are 7 places which are known as Masai pathar

From this plateau, the sunset scene is very beautiful.

During rainy season, this area is at its peal.

3. Vishalgad

History

The name Vishalgad connotes grandeur and magnificence. The picturesque fort houses the Amriteshwar temple Takmaktok, Sati vrindavan and a Dargan of Hazrat Mulkikdhyan Baba, which visited by devotees who comprise Hindu as well Muslims. The shilaha king Raja Bhoj built the kille vishalgad.

Geographical Position

Vishalagad fort crowns the Gajapur Hill about 80kms northwest of Kolhapur and about 62Kms away from Panhalgad. It is at the height of 1021ont. Above the sea level.

Interesting Places to visit and ecological importance

Pharasbandi Marg.

It occurs in the dense forest area a small water stream flows on this way, which increases its beauty more....

PandharePani

Interesting and beautiful road of trekkers.

We can have a look on Pavankhind from this place. In between Pandharepani and Pawankhind there is the real pictureque **pharasbandi Marg**.

Vishalgad is there in confusing trail of hills and valleys of Sahyadri, which is a surprising scene for tourists Vishalgad has connected with the Sahyadri by narrow trail. A natural flow of water is there in this confusing sahyadri ranges at vishalgad.

After climbing a tough fort, one can become tired but it we give one look at sight in front then it becomes wonderful experience in ones life. Sahyadri ranges surrounded by Vishalgad, nature's beauty and a cold breeze charges enthusiasm among the tired one. One can forget everything in front of this beauty. Its history and beauty both contributes for the significance of Vishalgad. Vishalgad has surrounded by very thick, dense forest where one can find various wild animals Vishalgad is having a good height to dominate the surroundings one can easily find out rare specie. This is an isolated place which maintains it natural, scenic beauty till date so it can be used as a ecotourism spot

4. Gaganbavada / Gagangad

History

Gaganbavda is a Taluka place situated at the bank of the valley of Konkan. In 1929, a water tank is constructed by the name of fifth Jorge since then water is provided to the tourist through this water tank Gagangad is famous for carved wide cave. In this cave Chowdeshwari and Shri dattatraya god and their Murti's fame established. A Swami of gagangad 'Gangangiri Maharaj' is there for the study of Yoga. Datta Jayanti is celebrated at Gaganbavada with a big crowd.

Geographicla Location

To wards the west of Kolhapur about 58km 691 mtr. above the sea level.

Ecological Importance

Gaganbavda is the central point/place of two passes viz Kurul pass and Bhuibavda. Towards the right of this place there is deep valley and this sight delights the eyes of the tourist. Ganganbavad is known as the Kalash of Ground Konkan.

Palsambe



It is about 15km. from Gaganbavda towards Kolhapur.

Ecological Importance

Dense forest and the red soil are the two important characteristics of Palsambe, where an Aashram has placed. In between, the two big hills near this place a stream flows from the Dajipur dense forest. At this place, there are three temples and a cave is carved from a single stone. Palsambe excavations are famous so that, tourists' visits the place where one can realize peace of mind enjoys the beauty of nature. The dense forest consist variety of plants and wild animals. There is a trench at Palsambe and its dense forest from three sides consists stone of 15.20 ft of height temples of 30-35 feet of height. An area is totally green and picturesque has different kinds of birds, flow of streams so it is pleasant one, can become significant Tourist spot.

5. Shri Narsobachi Wadi

History

This is a holy place on the confluence of river Krishna and Panchanganga and is renowned for the holy 'Paduks' (wooden slippers) of shree Dattaguru (an incarnation of

Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh) shree Narsimba Sarswati who ws an ioncarnation of shree Dattaguru lived here for 12years

Geographical location

Shree Kshetra Narsobawadi is the meeting of two rivers Panchaganga and Krishna , about 45km from Kolhpaur

Ecological Importance

It is an area of around 1000sq. mtr. near the specious ghat of Krishna beautiful temple, peacefully surrounding / Environment. A spot has richly wooded with babhul and tarnarind, Lies 3 miles south of Shirol at the meeting of the Krishna and Panchanganga rivers. At this holy place land is fertile. The fertility of land here is much more higher than the other places around kolhpaur. Therefore, to cultivate various numbers of plants and species can be possible. More number of pilgrims and tourists will visit being a holy place along with this eco tourist spot the place.

6. Khirdrapur : Shri Kopeshwar temple

History

The artistic temple of Kopeshwar (Mahadev) at Khidrapur is a treasure house of beautifully carved

sculptures and a rare architectural marvel. The entire temple rests on a 'Gajapeeth', there is a semi-circular platform resting on the back of 92 carved stone elephants on which the temple has built. In India, this is the only holy place where Shree Shankar is without Nandi. The temple is so beautiful that eyes delights after seeing its carved sculpture. Length of the temple is 104 ft, width is 65ft. and height is 53ft. Total number of pillars in the temple as 108.

It has been presented that the construction of the temple has started in 1110 and it was restored / renewed by the king of Devgiri II Sindhandev Yadav in 1213.

Geographical Position

Khidrapur an alienated village belonging to Sankeshware Swami, lies on the Krishna about 12 miles south east of Shirol and about 7km from kolhpaur

Ecological Importance

The construction of temples is a very good example of architectural and varying specimen based on Khajuraho temple in Madhya Pradesh this place also will be one of the favorite and created tourist spot. The available of water can provide good growth of all kinds of plants species to improve

ecology of the place. Thus this neglected place also can be known as favorite eco tourist's spot. Rather kolhapur is a potential international tourists attraction for its kopeshwar temple. A carving consists God and Goddess, dancing girls, men from Africa and Arabia beside that of birds and animals.

Many efforts same made to protect this place and decision have taken to take the place as an international tourist designation. Hence it requires a gentle push in a right way.

7. Wadi Ratnagiri: Shri Jyotiba Tmeple

History:

This is the help place nestles in the mountains. Jyotiba is supposed to be an in carnation of three gods – Brahma, Vishnu, Mahesh and the seer Jamadagani. A mammoth colorful fair takes pare on the till also attracts devotees. The temple is on the hill and this hill has been considered specially sacred In the middle of the village is a group of temples, the best of which are dedicated to Jyotiba under the names of Kedarling, Kedareshwar and Ramling. The temple is constructed in black stone.

Geographical Position:

Situated at a height of 3100 feet above sea level this is about 17 km. north most of Kolhapur.

Ecological Importance:

Jyotiba till also called wade Ratnagiri rises about 1000 feet from the plain in a truncated cone, and though disconnected, forms part of the Panhala spur which stretches from the Sahyadri crest to the Krishna. A small village is situated on the woody hill top. An area is under the green belt of Sahyadri hill. The hill feature of Jyotiba now under development as a pilgrim's station. The climate and lot of space can be providing a good and beautiful ecological park at his hilltop. The scenic beauty of Kolhapur district, view of a Konkan belt, the single districts can be seen from this hilltop.

8. Shri Bahubali Temple:

History:

Bahubali of Kumbhojgiri is the holi place gendered by Hindus as well as Jain devotees who pay respect to the 28 ft tall marble statue of shree Bahubali and visit the temple of 24 teerithankars. A temple of Durgamata on the hill also attracts devotees the statue of Bahubali is of 8 ft height.

Geographical location:

About 7 km. from talk Hatakanangale in Kolhapur district, Bahubali the help place of Jain has situated.

Ecological Importance:

The surrounding of this small hilltop is generally barren, but a small irrigation system mill changes the face of this place. It is also a very good example of sculpture.

9. Radhanagari and Dajipur Forest Reserves:**History:**

Kalamawadi and Radhanagari these the place are famous for dams in Kolhapur district. kalamawadi dam is constructed in 1975, and Radhanagari dam construction is started by Rajarshi Shahu Maharaj in 1904 but it has completed in 1954.

Geographical Position:

Radhanagari and the forest reserves are in western mountain range of Sahyadri about 50 km from the Kolhapur district. The forest area is at the height of 1000 mrt. in Sahyadri mountain range above the sea level.

Ecological Importance:

The forest area of this region comes under the sloping sides of hills of Radhanagari and Dudhaganga dam. It is an area of dense forest. Kinjal, Jambtul, Arjan, Amba, Sisam, Katak, Ranphanasi, Kumba, Hiran, Umbar, Kalwan, Hadka, Surangi, Sag, trees are there in the forest with certain other climbing plants and other green belt. For the wild animals this area has always remained useful one. Ennumber of medicinal plants also find in the above forest region. Tiger, Bibtya, Gau, bear, Salindar, Monkey, fox, mildcat, Mongoose etc. these are the wild animals. Cuckoo, parrot, out peacock, are the birds of this forest.

Kalamawadi dam project has developed especially for tourists. The project of garden at Kalamawadi is equally wonderful like the Vrundawan garden at Mysoor. One can even enjoy boating at this place about 7 km. from the Radhanagri. There is a Ramanwadi Pathar / Pain, which is a green so the can wonder freely on this particulate area.

Dajipur forest Reserve: Dajipur forest reserve of Kolhapur district is Known as 'Dajipur Gau forest' and is an important attraction of tourists . Plentiful natural beauty,

delightful Sahyadri ranges, cool breeze, many rare plants, birds and animals and totally peace full area makes the forest totally different and significant form all other places. Inside the Dajipur dense freest there is Shivagad fret is 728 meter above the sea level, Which has remained unknown but contributes in the beauty of the dense forest area.

Radhanagari and Dajipur forest area has abundant plants, species and it has known as a hot spot region of the western ghat. Around 1500 plants and species are available here. Around 200 Endemic plants are finding in Radhanagari forest and more than 300 medicinal plants are available there. The forest area provides raw material to the manufacturing industries of Ayurvedic medians. An Important feature of Radhanagari forest is the hillsides are like plain ground. It's real and natural beauty attracts many hikers, trekkers, adventure groups, scientist for the study, enjoyment and adventure purpose.

The evergreen tropical forest of Dajipur has a Profusion of thick foliage and sprawling trees and abounds in medicinal herbs. The weather is extremely cool as the place is 1200 meter. above sea level. Heavy monsoon showers

accounts for a thick forest and ever flowing springs and brooks. The animals are in abundance too and the sanctuary offers a visual feast for animals and watches. A naturalist's delight.

10. Don wade falls:

Geographical position:

The Bhudargad Taluka of Kolhapur district has blessed with the beauty of nature and dense green forest is 10-12 km from Gargoti of Bhudargad taluka.

Ecological Importance:

The beauty of nature, dense green forest area, delightful falls flows down at Don wade, Chirping of Birds, cool breeze and surrounding attracts the minds of the nature lovers, enthusiastic tourists and travelers .

Bhudargad, Rangana, Manohar, Mansantoshgad, Patgaon Prakalp are the peculiar places near the Don Wade falls.

11. Barki Water Falls:

History :

Vinoba Bhave has started Bhudan movement and his principle are used by 19 villages of Maharashtra. Barki is one of the villages among those villages, where they run a Gavgada system.

Geographical position :

From the Rankala bus stop of Kolhapur, it is about 60 km. on Kolhapur- Anuskura road, which passes the big cities Kale, Bajarbhogaon, Malapule and Karanjphen.

Ecological importance :

From the main road of Kolhapur Anuskura, road splits towards Barki at north side. After entering into this road, one can have a view of a small falls of Sula, Aasulne, and Nikare. This gives real pleasure from mere sight later, one can see an oozing / trickling / stream lake. Further journey starts with tree tunnel, big sound of air. Then moving ahead through a small water stream, a delightful sight is in front- a Barki falls which flows down from the height of 300 feet. Tourists enjoy here in this water flows. The sight has peerless beauty, remains forever in the minds of the people / tourists.

12. Forts

There are few important forts which are historically and naturally significant, and attracts tourists to see the site. These consists Bhudargad, Samangad, Rangana and Pargad.

Bhudargad :-

This fort is situated on a huge vertical rock admits moutain ranges. It is about 36 mile from kolhapur. At the center of Sahyadri. The length of this fort is 2600 ft and with is 2100 ft. Bhairav, Kedarling and Jakhubai are the temples at the fort. This fort has a history since 1209 up to 1857.

On this fort, there are big lakes, and fort lies in the green belt of Sahyadri.

B. Samangad:-

This fort is famous for the weaponry of the war, Buruz, gets, carved places. Towards the east of this place, there is one small hill. From this hill one can have a look of Bhudargad which is there at the centre of Sahyadri, Different kinds of wells find on this fort. To preserve and to protect the asset of this fort and conserve the natural beauty tree has planted at the fort. This fort also has

inspiring tables move around it situated in the gadhinglaj taluka, the fort has secret passages and strong bastions. Samangad, on an isolated oval – topped hill, has a great height of 260 ft above the sea and greatest breadth of 260 ft. the hilltop has surrounded by an eight ft high wall.

Rangana Fort:

This is the only fort where we have to come down from the steep hill through soft red soil and dense forest. It is on a flat-topped hill in the Sahyadris about 30 miles southwest of Bhudargad and 55 miles of Kolhapur. The hill is steep on three sides with an easy ascent on the north provides the views of Konkan and other forts. The top is girt by a wall of rough blocks of stone and mortar, leaving three pathways down the hill. Inside of the wall, the level hill top is broken here and there by swelling ground. The fort which is 4750 ft from east to west by 2240 ft. from north to south is deserted. It is watered by two small cisterns and three wells, now overgrown by trees. On the hillsides that has covered with underwood and shrub, woodash village raises crops of vari, nachani and harik. Since 1659, when along with Panhala it has taken by Shivaji and repaired, Rangana has

remained in Maratha hands. In 1844 the fort was dismantled by order of the British Government. Near the Rangana Hanmanta pass is there, near which Sidha cave is there with its natural beauty one can enjoy the place just like experiences at Lonavala, Khandala, Ooty etc..

D. Paargad:

Surrounded by lush greenery and picturesque forest, Paargad lies to the south of Kolhapur 28 Kms from Chandgad. The fort has exquisite bronze statues of Shivaji Raja and a temple of Bhagawati Bhawani. The common point of all these forts having historical importance, are surrounded by good vegetation this vegetation consists of various plant species, this place can be converted into good eco-park by cultivating rare/ecological plants. These forts have dense forest and green belt so that in summer also sun raises never touches to the ground. Indeed, it gives peace to eyes and mind.

13. Ramteeth:

History :

According to a fable the place is so named because lord Ram stayed here during his 'Vanavaas' (exile in forest.) there

are the temples of lord Rama, Mahadeva, Parvati, Chaloba, and Shri Dutta, which give it a special mystical quality.

Geographical position / location:

A scenic picnic spot in Ajra taluka is situated near the bank of Hiranyakeshi river.

Ecological importance :

Ramteerth tourist spot has a captivating natural beauty situated near the bank of the river. A picturesque spot with ancient temple, a river, an old coffee plantation and an orchard, which lend a quaint charm to this place.

The crowd of tourists come from Aamboli, Goa, Sawantwadi and they see surprising and delightful beauty of nature.

Near ancient temples there is a flat stone, on which one can stand and have a look of the river body of Hiranyakeshi and a falls which flows down from the height of 150 ft. The drizzling spray and forceful water flow gives a different kind of pleasure to the mind.

In this beautiful area, a famous Marathi author Dada Kondke produced many films, because of its charm and enchantment. A famous writer V.S. Khandekar also visited

the place for their writing. The spot is well known for its breathtaking natural beauty. The location is picturesque and can become the significant ecotourism place if implemented an outstanding plan.

14. Katyayani:

History:

Ancient temple of Kolhapur.

Location :

Katyayani temple is located at southeast of Kolhapur about 12 km

Ecological Importance:

The place is having its own silent beauty. The temple is a very good example of age-old architectural monument. The goddess Katyayani is another religious and important temple and sacred place for the people of Kolhapur. The structure of temple is having a similar nature that of a Bhawani mandap. A small pond in front of temple and a good vegetation around, temple increases the beauty of Katyayani hill feature. The place is so silent and giving a beautiful scene of Kolhapur city. This isolated place will be

one of the best ecotourism spot. While going to this place one odd Km. ghat/ hill road is there which gives vary beautiful site seeing of Kolhapur city up to Katyayani temple.

15. The Kaneri Math:

History:

This is a place of god Mahadev / Shankar comes under Kolhapur district. It has known as in 14 century these was establishment of the 'Pind' of Shankar by Lingayat society. The construction of the temple is hemandpanthi' and its craved sculpture is very beautiful, which one has to see/ visit. It has stated that in the ancient time it was a big fort or Buruz. It has a 125 ft deep well, which is also considered as a historical one. Chatrapati Shivaji and Sambhaji Maharaj were visited and protected this math. The temple is famous for kadsidheshwar, and called as siddhagiri.

Geographical location/Position:

The Kaneri Math is about 1 mile from the district place Kolhapur, towards south which is also famous as a Kadsidheshwar / Siddahgiri.

Ecological Importance:

The place is isolated and in its own silent, situated at a single till. This area is totally green, full of various trees and captivating. An ancient temple situated at this place is also attractive place in between the green patch of nature. It has a statue of Shanker of 42 ft of height and it attractive lies in between the trees of coconut tree. Number of school and college trips goes their to visit the place and can realize that one has to visit the place and learn to develop these kinds of areas at local level. An area as its own beauty and because of the Gokul Project, film industry and other industries near to this, the place is becoming into the light of the people.

At the Kaneri math, there is greenhouse, wind mill, and number of various plants have protected and kept which increases the beauty of the place. All these show plants, well managed garden roadside trees and gardens attracts / persuades the minds of the people. The people of this math have maintained their own farming land which is the main employment source for them. A well-planned hill spot of about 100 acre requires outstanding sources which can

protect the natural vegetation and help to promote this spot as a ecotourism spot. During the period of vacation, they organize camps of yoga.

16. Amba Pass

History :

Shree Kshetra Ambeshwar is a temple of Amba pass, which comes under the dense green belt.

Geographical position/Location:

About 700-750 meter above the sea level, towards the most of Kolhapur, Amba Ghat/pass comes under Shahuwadi Taluka. An Amba pass is the central place/point of the Kolhapur Ratnagiri road.

Ecological Importance :

Passes/ Ghat connect the western Maharashtra's Konkan and the crest of a hill/mountain ridge/ head of a pass. Amba is a village situated at the centre of Kolhapur and Ratnagiri districts, and these two districts have connected by Amba pass/ Ghat, among the huge and confusing Sahyadri ranges. The flow of natural beauty



remains constant in all the three seasons. In summer one can feel a pleasant cool breeze here dense forests, steep hills, deep valleys, flow of water streams, plants and species, birds and wild animals persuades the minds of the people and it gives happiness to the visitors.

Sachan :

This place is about 2-3 km from Amba. From here one can get the view of 'Konkandarshan'. Deep valleys and cool air flowing from these valleys, chirping of the birds and trotting stream water flow are the significant features of this place. A visit to ancient temple of Mahadev situated at this place, gives one different experience to the nature lovers.

Amba Ghat :

It is about 14 km long connects Konkan and mountain ridges of Sahyadri hill sides. Turning roads, deep valleys of green belt, Chirping of birds and dark green area which remains deep green through all season are the main features of attraction. The Konkani standard of living is an important characteristic of this plane. Its rare beauty captivates minds of all. After reaching at this spot one can

forget everything and thoroughly becomes the part of the nature and enjoy it. One can realize peace of mind, freshness, enthusiasm, pleasure, happiness here. In the rainy season, the beauty of Amba Ghat increases more and more which beyond explanation.

Sunset Point :

In the evening, we can get peace of mind in the Amba pass by remaining alone at the time of sunset. A reddish, orange and pinkish view of sunset touches the heart. When a sunsets in the dark forest one can get the feelings of the existence of birds and wild animals. At this place, there are some peculiar places viz. Maruti temple, Visava Point etc.

Ketaki Jalashay :

It is about 2 km. from the place Amba. This beautiful lake under this dense green forest belt famous especially for bird watching. At the temples of Adishti and Ganesha on Amba- Vishalgad road one can take rest and feel a peace of mind.

Waghzara :

Waghzara is a sweet and cold-water stream occurs in the dense forest area. After drinking water of this stream

one can feel really fresh and enthusiastic. Wild animals, birds come to this stream to drink water so it has called Waghzara.

Konkan Darshan Point :

From Vishalgad which is an about 19 km. from Amba we can see an area of Konkan through this dense green area. It is a heavenly look/ sight enriches minds of the people.

The forest area of Amba pass consists En, Jambhul, Kinjal, Sag, Karwandi, Hela, Dhupvruksha. These are the same important plants. Gum, Ral, Honey are the medicinal plants also find in this forest. Tiger, Chittah, dear, Gaureda, Bear, Wildcat, fox, Sambar are the wild animals and parrot, Peacock, Titar, Parva, Cucoo, Titvi, woodpecker etc. this are the birds one can view overhere.

The place is full of rich biodiversity so it has always remained attractive for the tourists from all over India and world. Its conservation and protection is the responsibility of everyone. So that there is requirement of well-designed ecotourism, plan for the promotion of beautiful and

enchanted area of Sahyadri- the hill of Western Maharashtra.

Arts, Aristocracy and graciousness. A legacy of valour combined with a culture steeped in spiritualism, education and modernism Kolhapur with its myriad images, emerges as a city with a multi faced persona and a rich, colorful, historical and mythical past. The place or selected area rich in biodiversity of great value. Even having all the potential and significant places there is question why these places have neglected from well designed planning and development.

Above listed spots along with their points, if implemented or paid attention can change the geographical, political and tourism face of the Kolhapur district selected area.

3.7 Miscellaneous Information:

As climatic condition and soil of Kolhapur is healthy, productive and fertile, the people of Kolhapur are renowned for their simplicity and hospitality. Few things which attracts the people in Kolhapur are the Kolhapuri Chappl, Rajabhau's bhel, Kolhapur Misal and various spicy food

dishes of nonveg locally known as 'Tambada Rassa and Pandhara Rassa'. Again kolhapur is famous for its traditional games viz wrestiling, local marshal arts known as 'Mardani Khel' (Kusti). Wresters are known as 'Malla'.

The organized shows of their eliminating traditional games can attract people all around India and world also. Opening various academics to teach this games, food preparation and leather industries. Also, add to more number of students / tourists/researcher to displace to Kolhapur. Similar to the operation flood project in Gujrat in Kolhapur, the Warana project has started and till date is famous for huge amount of generation of milk and milk products, which has transported to the whole of India.

It is an important centre of Marathi film industry. Kolhapur is famous for being a centre of art, education, industry and sports. Kolhapur is having a good communication centre and systematic and well planned metropolitan of India, is abundant in natural resources and rich in biodiversity. All these aspects can contribute in the better safe of ecotourism development in and around Kolhapur.