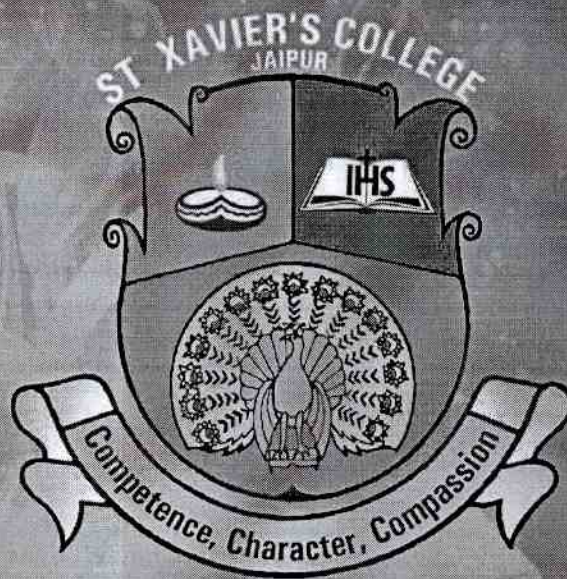


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Skills Development Requirement in Indian Tourism Sector for Better India

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Abstract

The two driving forces that are a must for economic growth & social development of a country are the skill and knowledge. For a nation to grow at 8-9% GDP rate, it is mandatory for secondary & tertiary sectors to grow at a rate of 10% to 11%, assuming the agriculture sector's growth at 4%. Therefore, it becomes obvious that migration of a large population would take place from agriculture sector to the other two sectors even though, the skills needed in these two sectors are distinct from that of primary sector. This shows that due to such migrations shortage of skills will definitely occur. This calls for skill development of the workforce. By the year 2022, India is presumed to have a skilled manforce of about 500 million. Tourism is one of the sectors that is supposed to propel the economic growth as well as the employment opportunities. The paper focuses on how trained and educated manpower can boost the tourism industry.

Keywords: Employment, Tourism Industry, Training, Economic Growth, Skill Development

1. Introduction

India is one of the huge and most delectable markets for tourism. It extends an assorted portfolio of various niche products related to tourism – adventure, voyage, games and sports, health and wellness, film, MICE tourism, eco-tourism, religious & rural tourism. India is a spot for spiritual tourism for both types of tourists, i.e. internal and foreign tourists. Uttar Pradesh had allotted Rs 720 crore in March 2019, in order to strengthen the tourism infrastructure.

The contribution of the tourism sector in India's GDP is said to grow from Rs 15.24 trillion in year 2017 to Rs 32.05 trillion in the year 2028. Out of 184 countries, India ranked 7 with regards to the total contribution of travel & tourism to the GDP in 2017. For India, this sector is the third major source of earning foreign exchange. In 2018, FEEs from the tourism sector grew 4.70% year-on-year to 28.59 billion dollar. In the same period, Foreign Tourist Arrivals or FTAs raised 5.20 % year-on-year to 10.56 million. Foreigners coming because of medical cause grew from 427,014 in the year 2016 to 495,056 in the year 2017. In year 2018, tourists coming through e-tourist visa raised to 39.6% per annum upto 2.37 million. And in May 2019, the same grew by 21.7% each year upto 1.23 million.

In year 2017-18, in India, 81.1 million of the population of the country were engaged in tourism sector that accounts for 12.38 percentage of the country's overall employment. The Government has targeted 20 million FTAs till the year 2020 and also twice earnings from forex. Launching of 'Incredible India' & 'Athiti Devo Bhava' by the Indian Government has led to focused & boosted growth.
