

Popularization of River Tourism in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

Pulla Suresh, Mr. Sam Nirmal, Arpan Roy
Institute of Hotel Management, Hyderabad.

Abstract:- Rivers play a vital role in the settlements of cities. Archaeological survey shows The AssakaMahajanapada (700–300 BCE) was an ancient kingdom located between the Godavari and Krishna Rivers in southeastern India. This tradition is been followed since a long time as it provides a good source of water and food. The rivers are not only are responsible for settlements which later turned in a whole city but also with modernization humans make the most out of the river and construct various tourist attraction spots or a structure like dam which is built to control the flow of water also becomes a tourist attraction. Two such areas in India whose history is intricately preserved are Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Earlier, Andhra Pradesh was one state with majority of people speaking Telugu language. After the partition of Telangana state on 1st June, 2014. Many of these ancient preserved sites are based along the rivers, Krishna, Godavari, Tungabhadra, Musi, Pennar, Manjira, Godavari, Krishna etc. Many of these rivers also play a vital role in new world tourism. This paper is about River tourism in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Keywords:- Settlements, Archaeological, River, Tourism, Modernization.

I. OBJECTIVE

- To study the reason for popularization of river tourism in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana state, India.
- Identify potential spots for river tourism in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana state, India.

II. INTRODUCTION

Tourism is said to be one of the largest revenue generating industries accounting up to billions of dollars and thousands of jobs. Technological innovations,

urbanization, economical transportation and increasing interest of humans in traveling these are few of the reasons which is pushing the tourism industry to grow. The present day river based tourism can be traced back to Britishers rule. Humans settled near water bodies only because water was easily available for agriculture and their daily needs however with passing time humans also started to visit these water bodies just to relax and enjoy the beautiful scene. This gave room to small businesses like boating across the river, street food carts and eventually sell of tickets to visit/enter few places. Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is known for its spicy food and hot climate but the rivers which flow through these states have really beautiful tourist spots on their banks. This paper will throw some more light on tourism of river in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

III. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Telangana State lies on the Deccan Plateau to west of Eastern Ghats (between 15° 51'N and 19° 51'N latitude; 77°15'E and 18°50'E longitudes) and with two major rivers flowing through it i.e. Godavari and Krishna. The state occupies an area of 1, 14,838 Sq. Km. at an elevation of 400mts. This state has a rocky land perhaps having some dry patches compared to rest of the state. The state has 22,237 Sq. Km area of forest. Telangana faces an average rainfall of 75cm to 80 cm every year out of which 3/4th is received during monsoon season and rest in November. The lowest temperature this state experiences is 20°C and highest being 45°C. (Gade, 2016)

Andhra Pradesh lies on the Deccan Plateau (between 12°41'N and 19.07°N latitude; 77°E and 84°40'E longitude) with a coastline of 974 Km. Two major rivers that flows through the state is Godavari and Krishna. The temperature ranges from 15°C to 45°C. The state receives an average rainfall of 75cm to 85cm annually. (File, 2016)

River	Length (km)	Length (miles)	Drainage area (km ²)	Outflow	Districts of Telangana
Godavari River	1465	910	312812	Bay of Bengal	Nizamabad, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Warrangal, Khammam
Krishna River	1400	870	258948	Bay of Bengal	Nalgonda, Khammam
Bhima River	861	535	70614	Krishna River	Mahaboobnagar
Manjira River	724	450	30844	Godavari River	Nizamabad, Medak
Musi River	256	159	NA	Krishna River	Nalgonda, Ranga Reddy
Paleru River	112	70	NA	Krishna River	Khammam

Table 1
Source: Maps of India(mapsfindia, 2014)

IV. RIVERS IN TELANGANA



Map 1
Source: Maps of India(mapsfindia, 2014)

A. Godavari River:

- Originates from Western Ghats.
- Second largest river in India which flows in the southern part of India.
- It is sacred for Hindus.
- Flows for 1465KM and ends at Bay of Bengal.
- Flows through Adilabad, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Warangal and Khammam in Telangana.
- Asia's largest lift irrigation is present on this river called VishnupuriPrakalp, 5Km from Nanded City.
- The water flowing in river Godavari has some water from following rivers: Manjira (6%), Pranahita (40%), Indravati (20%) and Sabari (10%).

B. Krishna River:

- The river flows for about 1300Km in length.
- Originates in Western Ghats at an altitude of 1300m above sea in Bay of Bengal at Hamasaledevi in Andhra Pradesh.
- WaranaRiver, PanchagangaRiver merge into Krishna River near Sangli.
- This river is sacred in Hindu.

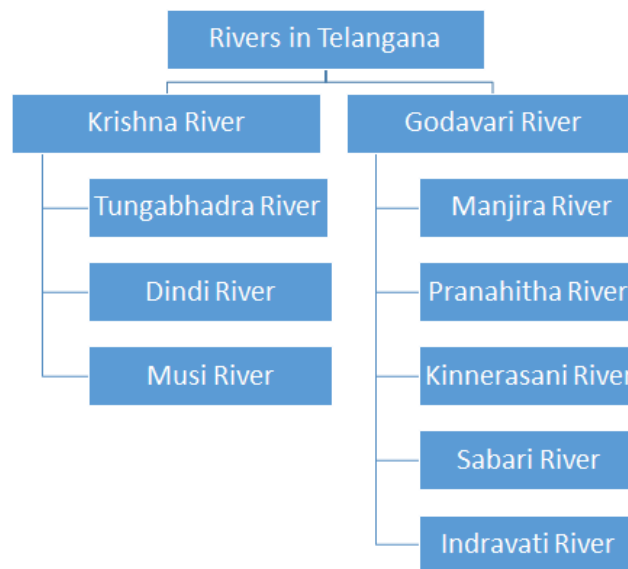


Chart: 1

Source: Author's compilation

V. RIVER TOURISM IN TELANGANA**A. Krishna River**➤ **Nagarjunsagar Dam:**

- Tallest masonry dam in the world with height of 124meters and length of 1Km which holds 11,742 million cubic liters of water.
- Located at a distance of 150Km from Hyderabad on the borders of Nalgonda and Guntur district.
- NagarjunaSagar Wildlife Sanctuary, Nagarjuna Konda Museum, Ethipothala Waterfall are the famous attractions of this place.
- It's reservoir is the 3rd largest manmade lake
- The dam gives a breath taking view of both river and when one stands in front of the dam it is for sure that chills will run through their spine.

B. Godavari River:➤ **BasaraSaraswati Temple**

- At a distance of 212Km from Hyderabad, located in Adilabad district.

- Basar or Basara is situated on the banks of River Godavari. It is a popular tourist and pilgrimage site because of the famous Saraswathi temple.
- The Basara temple in is a unique temple of Goddess Saraswati, the Hindu Goddess of Knowledge and Learning. Children are brought here to do the learning ceremony called AksharaAbyasam.
- It is also considered to be one among the three temples created near the holy confluence of the Manjira and Godavari Rivers by the Rashtrakutas. A Karnataka king by the name Bijjaludu reportedly constructed this ancient temple at Basar.

➤ **Singur Dam**

- The Dam is at a distance of 92Km from Hyderabad, located on Manjira River
- This has a good scenic view and lot of flora and fauna around it.
- The dam is near a rural settlement which adds on to the beauty
- It was built for hydroelectricity and irrigational purpose
- This also supplies drinking water to the population around.

VI. RIVERS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

Sr. No.	Name	Origin	Length	Dam	Connecting State	Connecting City
1	Godavari River	Brahmagiri Mountain	1,465 km	Jayakwadi Dam	Maharashtra Telangana Chhattisgarh Andhra Pradesh Pondicherry	Nashik Nanded Ramagundam Mancherial Bhadrachalam Rajamundry
2	Krishna River	Mahabaleshwar	1,400 km	Pulichinthala Dam Narayanpur Dam	Maharashtra Karnataka Telangana Andhra Pradesh	Mahabaleswar Hamsaladevi
3	Penna River	Nandi Hills	597 km	Srisaillam Dam	Andhra Pradesh Karnataka	Nellore
4	Tungabhadra River	Bhadra River	531 km	Tungabhadra Dam	Karnataka Andhra Pradesh Telangana	Hampi Hospet Kumool
5	Nagavali River	Lakshbahal	256.5 km		Andhra Pradesh	Kalahandi Srikakulam Vizianagaram
6	Sabari River	Sinkaram hill ranges	418 km		Andhra Pradesh	Kunavaram
7	Kundu River	Penna River				Kumool
8	Champavathi River	Eastern Ghats				Gajapathinagaram Nellimarla Saripalli Denkada Palem
9	Gosthani River	Ananthagiri Hills	120 km			
10	Munneru	Mahabubabad Warangal			Telangana	Khammam Krishna

Table 2

Source: pincodeindia (pincodeindia, 2018)



Map 2

Source: mapsofindia(mapsofindia, 2014)

➤ *Two major rivers flow through Andhra Pradesh*

- River Godavari
- River Krishna

The characteristics of these rivers have been mentioned earlier in the paper (ref. serial no. 5.1 and 5.2).

➤ *Peena River*

- This river originates from Nandi hills in Karnataka.
- It is a 597Km long river which empties in Bay of Bengal.
- Passes through Anathapur, Kadapa and Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh.
- The main source of water for this river is rain fall and during dry season this is just a stream of water (Garg, 1999)

➤ *Champavathi River*

- Originates from Eastern Ghats at an altitude of 1,200 mts near Andra Village.
- Drains itself in Bay of Bengal.
- Flows for 200km through Palem, Gajapathinagaram, Saripalli, Denkada, Natavalasa and other villages of Vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh.
- The centre of the river lies in a longitude of 83.46667 and its latitude is at 18.2. It possesses an elevation of 25m above the sea level.(website, 2018)

➤ *Gosthani River*

- The Gosthani rises in the Ananthagiri Hills of the Eastern Ghats and flows through the Borra Caves which lie near its source.
- Flows for 120Km.
- Drains itself in Bay of Bengal through an estuary near Bheemunipatnam.
- The river is rainfed, receiving an average rainfall of 110 cm most of which comes from the south-west monsoon.(B, 2013)

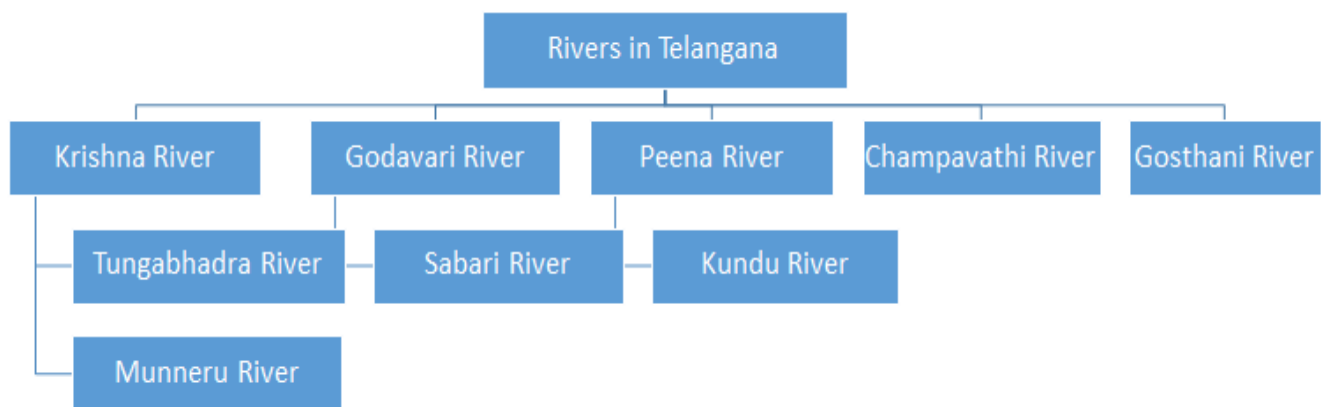


Chart 2

Source: Author's compilation

VII. RIVER TOURISM IN ANDHRA PRADESH

A. Krishna River

➤ *Srisailem Dam*

- The dam was constructed in a deep gorge in the Nallamala Hills in between Kurnool and Mahabubnagar districts, 300 m.
- This was constructed to produce hydroelectricity.
- Located 330Km away from Hyderabad.

➤ *Vaikuntapuram*

- Located in Krishna district this 27Km stretch has a reservoir.
- Located couple of kilometers away from Vijayawada. (Hans india, 2018)

B. Godavari River

➤ *Rajahmundry*

- Located on the banks of River Godavari in Andhra Pradesh, and officially known Rajamahendravaram, Rajahmundry is the biggest city of the East and the West Godavari District in the state.
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- The Pushkaraghats, located along the river, is where the grand Pushkara festivals are held every 12 years. This festival is a holy congregation which sees a lot of devotees scurrying here for the prayers and to take a dip in the holy water.

- *Papikondalu mountain range*
- Located in Rajahmundry and runs along river Godavari.
- Papikondalu is a sheer fest to the eyes in terms of its scenic beauty. As the hills become closer and closer to the visitor, the width of the mighty Godavari becomes narrower.
- (Website, 2018)

C. Peena River

- *Gandikota Penna River View*
- 200-300 meters east of the Raghunathaswamy sanctuary, lies the waterway Penna glut. It is said to be the "Excellent ravine of India".
- The canyons are very nearly 300 feet profound from the bluff which made the stronghold relatively unconquerable because of its normal defense.
- Located in Kadapa at a distance of 380Km from Hyderabad.

➤ *Madhavaraya Temple*

- Located in Gandikota.
- Madhavaraya Temple is dedicated to Lord Vishnu and is believed to have been built during the reign of Sri Krishna Deva Raya of Vijayanagara Kingdom.
- The Madhavaraya temple displays a fascinating architecture with many sculptures of Hindu Gods and everyday rituals of common people carved on its pillars and walls.
- (website, hello travel, n.d.)

D. Gosthani River

- *The Tatipudi Reservoir*
- Built to supply water to Vishakhapatnam.
- Constructed in 1968 and located 112Km from Vishakhapatnam.
- Has couple of tourist activities.
- (Website, Trawell, n.d.)

VIII. FINDINGS

There are a lot of places to explore in Andhra and Telangana along the banks of river. South India being a spiritual place many temples are located on the bank of rivers and in surrounding places. The number of viewpoints and casual tourist spots are surprisingly less. Most of the tourist places are dams or temples.

IX. SCOPE FOR DEVELOPMENT

- The tourist places in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana along the rivers are quite wide spread and not 100% of scenic view is being made use of.
- If the banks of rivers are carefully planned then there is a lot of scope for development in tourism.
- Viewpoints can be made along with some refreshment stalls which will attract more guests.
- Contracts of guest houses, kiosks and cafes can be given to professionals to make maximum use of the surroundings and give guests an unforgettable experience.

- The government has setup hotels but they need to be taken care of to provide good service consistently.
- Instead of boating water rafting can be a better option along the flow of river as it would omit pollution and attract the youth.

X. CONCLUSION

River tourism in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana has many scope to grow with the beautiful bank of rivers and the fact that people in these states enjoy spending time with nature. The banks of rivers are now being used to build temples as this attracts devotees further since it is a dry land many dams were built to divert and store water this gives room to more tourist places as the view from a dam is splendid. In future if government builds proper staying facilities along with good food supply it would be an asset to the nation as it would attract many tourist and locals to spend time in beautiful places in the arms of nature.

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