METHODOLOGY

The present study would be based on both secondary and primary data. It purposes to generate quantitative and qualitative data from various stakeholders like tour operators, tourists, government agencies, policy makers, hotel owners etc. The study may follow given below steps.

6.1 Present status of Tourism in Nashik district

This will be studied with the help of enquiry from tourism development office at Nashik. The secondary data may be useful to understand trend of flow in the past few years. Thus by adopting a geographical approach following parameters will be used for understanding present state of tourism in the district.
   a) Geographical location
   b) Infrastructural facilities.
   c) Views of various stakeholders.

   For collection of information for the parameters mentioned above a survey would be conducted to understand the opinions of the tourists and other stakeholders.

Potential Tourist Places

A study of contour map/toposheet may give idea regarding probable tourist places according to physiographic conditions. Potential pilgrimage centers will be identified on the basis of local enquiry. Once such tourism places are identified following tasks would be carried out.
   a) Mapping the potential tourist places
   b) Preparing travel circuit routes for covering new tourist places.

It is observed that the old tourist places have been overcrowded and hence development of alternate tourism centers has become a necessity.

Geographical feasibility of tourism
Development at potential tourist places. This study will be carried out on the basis of survey of knowledgeable persons and stakeholders. Further public hearing would be conducted at the destinations (10% sample) to know participatory tourism development.

**Planning**

Planning strategies would be designed according following principles.

a) The benefits of tourism should be shared by local people
b) The marketing of local products would be significantly improved.
c) Environmental degradation should be checked.

Thus these principles of planning would help to develop strategies for sustainable tourism development.

**THE TECHNIQUES**

The study is heavily based on quantitative data collected in the survey. A score method would be useful to analyse qualitative data. Simple techniques mean and standard deviation would be useful for the analysis of data. ANOVA may be useful to identity significance of difference amongst various destination. GIS technique may be useful to develop travel circuit routes.

The satisfaction index would be computed based on the response of tourists, by using score method.

**SCHEME OF CHAPTERS**

The present study has been divided into eight chapters. The outline of chapters is given below:

**Chapter 1) : INTRODUCTION**

This chapter will deal with the conceptual framework of the phenomenon of tourism, evolution of tourism, development of tourism in India and Maharashtra, importance of geography in tourism studies, geographical components of tourism, motivations of tourism, types of tourism, need of the study, objectives, hypotheses and methodology of the study, review of literature and plan of the study.
Chapter 2) : PHYSIOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

This chapter deals with the profile of study region. It emphasizes the physical determinants like location, Physiography, drainage system, climate, vegetations and demographic pattern in the study area.

Chapter 3) : IDENTIFICATION OF TOURIST PLACES & THEIR POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

In this chapter, an attempt has been made to identify the tourism resource potential and assess the resources potential of tourism and fixing a criterion for resource analysis in the district. It also deals with the tourist facilities like accommodation, transportation and communication, entertainment, recreation and other facilities. These facilities are support to tourism development.

Chapter 4) : FUNCTIONAL & BEHAVIOURAL ASPECT

This chapter explains the functional and behavioral aspects of tourism consisting the types of tourist, occupational patterns of respondents, origin of tourist, purpose of visit, age-sex structure of tourist, mode of travel, types of accommodation, length of stay, opinions and suggestions regarding the improvement in the existing infrastructure of tourism.

Chapter 5) : PROSPECTS AND PLANNING

In this chapter, case studies are described and explained to support the present study. The sample studies, which are selected from different geographical environments, are as follows:

1) Panchavati
2) Trimbak
3) Mangi-Tungi
4) Malegaon
5) Surgana
6) Sinnar
7) Salher-Mulher
8) Trimbakeshwar
Chapter 6) : CONCLUSION:

Study also deals with the prospects and planning for tourism development. It emphasizes the proposals for the planning at different tourist interest places in the district. Finally, the summary and conclusions have been presented with meaningful and viable suggestions for tourism development in the Nashik district.

Work Plan

The research work will be carried out according to the following plan

- Reading of relevant literature, preparation of questionnaire by discussing with guide – **Six months.**
- Field visits, discussions and interactions with tourists, tour operators, government agencies, hotel and resort owners, collection of data through field visits, primary and secondary sources – **Six months.**
- Compilation, analysis and interpretation of data. Tabulation and preparation of maps, discussions and recommendations – **Six months.**
- Report writing, typing formatting and final binding – **Six months.**