

The tourism sector in Asom- a critical study

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Abstract

The Tourism Sector has become a part or an appendage of the international trade and exchange system. The State of Asom in India is one of the most beautiful and attractive regions of India. There is hardly any other state which offers what Asom has. Asom has greater variety and colors in its natural scenery and in the cultural treasures of the people that inhabit it. Asom is blessed with an abundance of scenic grandeur. In view of the growing importance of the tourism sector all over the world in general, and in the State of Asom in particular, the tourism sector has become a part or an appendage of the international trade and exchange system. The present study intends to study the position of the Asom tourism sector. It was found that Asom has occupied the lions-share in the North East Region, with almost 68 percent of this share, while in India it has only 0.005per cent, 0.0035per cent of the Asia Pacific region and accounts for 0.00044 per cent of the world tourist arrivals from 2011-2012. Although it is suffering from different threats and challenges, it has a number of key attributes to attract domestic and foreign tourists into the state. This has enormous potential for the future development of the tourism sector in the state, hence government should encourage the private sector to be involved in the tourism field and try to attract private investment. Consequently, a well co-ordinated tourism plan and a policy of public-private partnership is required so as to develop the tourism sector in the state in the long run.

Key words: Asom, Growth, North Eastern Region, Tourism Sector.

Introduction

Tourism has been evolving into an ever encompassing socio-economic phenomenon, including in the countries like India. Fast expansion in tourist movements in India, which is estimated to be over 500 million (inbound, outbound and domestic), has been a consequence of many inter-related socio-economic processes. Major factors contributing to this process are many i.e., rapid increase in the personal/household income; holiday and vacation time; access to a variety of information pertaining to transport, accommodation, attraction and other products; fragmentation of joint-family and education. The benefactors of this ongoing process cut across various social and economic groups and that has resulted in augmenting the tourism propensity of the people at large. Incidentally, fast growth in tourist numbers in India coincide with the country embracing a new development model in 1990. The mass movement of tourists in India has other cultural correlates as well, in the form of

pilgrim travel and kinship meetings. Latest data suggest those domestic travellers are in the tune of 500 million tourists.

However, such huge volumes have also drawn critical attention of many and often contested for want of accuracy. Critics then argued that such huge numbers are not legitimate, particularly in a situation where over one-fourth of the population estimated to be living below poverty. Then, while accepting the fact that sufficient discretionary income is sine quo non for tourism in conventional sense to happen, it is also a relational concept with different economic groups viewing discretionary income differently. In reality, domestic tourism phenomenon in India can hardly be puzzling in terms of its volume. Some recent studies have indeed looked into India's tourist volumes and came up with suggestion that there is nothing unusual about domestic tourism occurring in a massive way. People do travel in large volumes in the strict sense of tourist definitions and purposes, but it is the magnitude of the economic impacts from

their touring is perhaps the contentious one for many. It is a fact that a large chunk of them may not be staying in the conventional hotels/ accommodation units but their overall contribution to the destinations can be hardly overlooked.

North eastern region of India is an ideal place for the development of adventure and eco-tourism. Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur are home to unique natural tourist spots. Nagaland, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura states have rich culture and heritage. Asom, as a destination, corresponds to a world of contrast and excitement with each place of the State having something amazing to offer. Some people call it a magic land while others call it a green paradise. The state Asom is one of the most beautiful and attractive region of India. There is hardly any other state as Asom has greater variety and colors in its natural scenery and in the cultural treasures of the people that inhabit it. Asom is blessed with an abundance of scenic grandeur. A wealth of rarest and near extinct species of wildlife, verdant forests, somber hills, undulating green plains and mighty water ways are her main attractions. The species of wild life like the one horned Asiatic Rhino, the Golden Langur, the Pigmy Hog, the Hispid hare, the White winged wood duck, have made Asom their home. Elephants, Bisons, Water Buffaloes, Hollock gibbons, several species of deer and thousand other varieties of wild-life and myriads of resident and migratory birds can be seen in the wild life sanctuaries. Her un-spoilt hilly terrains are ideal for hiking and trekking and the numerous waterways with falls and rapids, offer magnificent opportunity for adventure tourism like boating, sailing, rafting canoeing and Kiaking. Lush tea gardens stretching over miles together are ophthalmic prescription for tired eyes.

The perfect fusion of heritage, tradition, faiths and beliefs of numerous races has made Asom the home of the most colorful festivals and fairs delightful, compelling and indeed mesmerizing. Thus, so long hidden behind red tape, Asom's beauty is a fact that defines imagination. Asom harbors a virtual bonanza of attractions for tourist of every kind. There are the historical monuments and structures, which speak of a glorious past of high architectural achievement. It is however, none other than Mother native, which

transforms the State into a heaven of tourism. The places of unsurpassed natural beauty in Asom ensure that the visitor goes away with a lasting impression.

The tourist destinations of Asom have considerable potentials in its historic, cultural and natural resources to draw significant numbers of domestic and international leisure/holiday tourists. These tourist destinations provide a balance of many attractions in the categories like Natural features, Historic and Cultural heritage, Shopping and entertainment facilities, Educational and Interactive learning facilities, Sports and Recreational Activities. In view of the growing importance of the tourism sector all over the world, in general and in the state of Asom particular and the sector has become a part or an appendage of the international trade and exchange system hence the present study intends to peep into the position of tourism sector in Asom with the following objectives.

- 1) To study the growth of tourism sector in Asom.
- 2) To find out share of Asom in tourist arrivals to North East Region, Asia Pacific and World tourist arrivals.
- 3) To find out challenges and Opportunities of tourism sector in Asom.

METHODOLOGY

The study is based on the secondary data collected from various government sources like Ministry of Tourism, World Tourism Organization, World Travel and Tourism Council, and other relevant websites. Statistical tools used to study the objectives are Compound Annual Growth Rate and Coefficient of Variation and Percentages. The study period covers from 2000-01 to 2011-12.

GROWTH OF TOURISM IN ASOM

Table -1 shows the domestic tourist arrivals to Asom during 2000-01 to 2011-12. The quantum of domestic tourist arrivals has increased from 10.07 lakh in 2000-01 to 43.39 lakh in 2011-12 registered a positive and significant compound annual growth rate of 14.20 per cent. Tourist arrivals in Asom showed an increasing trend during the study period. Though compound annual

growth rate of domestic tourist arrivals into Asom was registered as 14.20 per cent, but there is a tremendous instability in domestic tourist arrivals which was shown by the variation in the tourist arrivals which is 40.72 per cent. It is also observed that a great variation in year to year change ranging from 0.89 to 92.91 per cent.

Similarly Table-2 portrays the foreign tourist arrivals into Asom. There were 5959 lakh during 2000-01 increased to 16423 lakh by 2011-12 registering a compound annual growth rate of 9.65 per cent with variation of 39.27 per cent. Although there is a great variation as recorded in foreign tourist arrivals to Asom is observed in year to year change which was ranging between 1.44 to 58.56 during the study period but it is much less when compared to the domestic tourist arrivals to the state.

The study also compared the domestic and foreign tourist arrivals among the states of North Eastern Regions (NER) which were shown in the Table-3 and Table-4. Table-3 explains that Asom captured a major share in NER during the years with 66.72 per cent, 65.69 per cent and 68.11 per cent in the years 2009, 2010, and 2011 respectively but year after year its share was reduced due to the attempts made by the other states to attract tourists arrivals to other states. But however, Asom remained and maintaining its lions share of 68.11 in attracting tourist arrivals among other states of NER, which is followed by Meghalaya, Sikkim in the region with 10.47 percent, 8.66 percent respectively where as a very few tourist arrivals were attracted by Nagaland with 0.39 percent in domestic tourist arrivals into NER in 2011.

From table-4, it is observed that the same trend of lions share is captured by Sikkim with 40.78 per cent, 40.00 per cent in the years 2010, and 2011 respectively. The second position is occupied by Asom and followed by Meghalaya in the third position in attracting foreign tourists. Where as Manipur is the state least visited by foreign tourists during the study.

Domestic and Foreign Tourist arrivals into different States and Union Territories of India is shown in the Table-5. As far as the rankings of the states in India is concerned, Asom registered 18th rank, followed by Meghalaya, Sikkim and Nagaland with 23rd,

25th and 34th ranks in domestic tourist arrivals into Indian States and Union Territories in the year 2011 where as in foreign tourist arrivals into Indian States and Union Territories, Sikkim occupied 21st rank, followed by Asom, Meghalaya and Manipur with 22nd, 27th, and 35th ranks.

Table-6 shows that the share of Asom Domestic tourists in Northeastern Region decreased from 69.49 per cent in 2000-01 to 68.20 per cent in 2011-12 year where as it registered a share of 52.09 per cent in foreign tourist arrivals into NER, in the year 2000-01 but drastically decreased to 27.89 per cent in 2011-2012 similar trend was seen in total tourist arrivals into north eastern region, its share is decreased form 69.36 per cent in 2000-01 to 67.83 per cent in 2011-12. Over all, Asom is leading in attracting both domestic and foreign tourists in NER, registered 67.83 percent of total tourist arrivals to this region during 2011-12.

The study also found the share of Asom in tourist's arrivals into India, Asia Pacific and into the world tourist arrivals which is depicted in Table-7. It was found that it has occupied a lions share in North Eastern Region, with almost 67.83 percent, its share in India is only 0.005 per cent, 0.0035 per cent in Asia Pacific and 0.00044 per cent in the world tourist arrivals as on 2011-12. The following are found to be the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of tourism sector in Asom.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE GROWTH OF TOURISM SECTOR IN ASOM

The most vibrant part of the North-Eastern India, Asom, a green paradise, combines so many and such varied passions and beauties that stir up one's mind and stimulate to see more. Asom has world class tourism resources, and those correspond to celestial and amazing diversity to offer to tourists. There is hardly any other State like Asom, which has greater variety and colour in its natural scenery and in the cultural treasures of the people that inhabit it. A green paradise, Asom offers picturesque landscape, beautiful mountain and seven rivers. It has natural lagoons and fine picnic spots, flora and fauna, world famous wild life sanctuaries like Kaziranga National Park, Manas National Park, Orange National Park and other give a lasting impression.

Pilgrimage destinations such as Kamakhya, Hajo, Vasisthashram, Nabagraha Temple and others are there.

The historical city with important archaeological remains and monuments such as Sibsagar, speak of a glorious past of high architectural achievements. Places of unsurpassed natural beauty such as Haflong and Chandubi transfer Asom into a heaven of tourism. This state enjoys a pride of place in the country with its rich heritage of artistic craftsmanship. The basketwork and mats of Kamrup, Sibsagar and Nagaon are well known and Cachar district is known for its very special sital patti mats.

This state is a land of fair and festivals. There are spring festivals, autumn festivals, food festivals and the Jorhat pony race a legacy of the Raj. The perfect fusion of heritage of its tribes, have made Asom the home of most colorful festivals. The mighty Brahmaputra River, rock hills in Morigaon District, trekking routes of North Cachar hills, welcome adventure tourists to conquer them and enjoy these all with high spirit. Asom, a tea country, has two of the oldest plantations of Asom, Sensua and Gatodnga, at 15 minutes drive from nearest Jorhat airport, and a world within world. The tea states, spanning over hundreds of acres, offer tourists the spatial freedom to meander through them, watching the dappled sunlight filter through the shade trees and weave patterns of black and white, on the neatly pruned tea bushes. Pleasant climate for most part of the year, easy accessibility to Asom by all modes of transport. Fairly developed tourism related facilities and services. Some of the new policies of Government of India and the Government of Asom are oriented towards giving a thrust for the development of tourism sector in the state.

Asom, in the north east, the virgin most tourist destination of the whole India. Visitors will find down here, plains and river valleys quietly nestled in between parallel mountain ranged commanding different highest, a phenomenon attributed to a gradual process of evolution. However a destination's attractiveness for tourism depends on the coming together of a number of key attributes, to constitute total tourism products, which offer satisfying and satisfactory experiences to its targeted market segments.

These attribute include Natural features (inland, topography, flora & fauna) Cultural features (heritage, monuments, events, are, music and dance) Built feature (tourist accommodation, tours and recreational facilities, urban and rural environment) Infrastructure and amenities (transportation, communication, shopping, comfort amenities) Effective service (trained in technical, linguistic and social skills) Good information (through tourist information system, printed materials, maps, signposts) A welcoming environment (local inhabitants aware of the value of, and have strong positive attitudes towards tourism and tourists) .

Asom has all these attributes with enormous potentials for future development in line of heritage tourism, health tourism, educational tourism, and business tourism, entertainment tourism, adventure tourism and cultural tourism. All these tourism activities are the latest alternations in foreign as well as domestic tourists. In view of the above facts, it can be ascertained that the state has considerable potential for expanding domestic tourism and attracting many more international tourists.

CHALLENGES TO THE GROWTH OF TOURISM SECTOR IN ASOM

In the present scenario of Tourism in the state the following weakness have be identified as lack of comprehensive policy framework of the state government for long term development of tourism, despite it having a lot potential of tourism development. Lack of awareness in overseas countries of the state's natural and cultural features of outstanding attractions. Lack of sufficient awareness, education and publicity amongst local residents regarding economic, social and cultural benefits of tourism, lack of co-ordination among tourism administrators, owners of the hotel industry, travel and tourism association, other constitutes of government like Town and Country Planning Department, Civil Aviation, PWD, Environment, Railway, etc., deficiencies in infrastructures like poor road conditions or non-accessibility, poor solid waste management system etc are found for its weakness.

Besides, lack of adequate professional training facilities for human resource development and quality of

services, lack of adequate security cover Asom has enormous potentials of tourism with respect to its all segments including heritage tourism, health tourism, educational tourism, business tourism, entertainment tourism, adventure tourism and cultural tourism. But, it has not made able to make an exclusive destination image itself, in order to set guarantee of success. The lack of convenient direct international air services to Guwahati, Asom from the major tourist generating centers of Western Europe, Northeast Asia, North America and Australia/ New Zealand. The inability of the State's Department of Tourism, and Travel and Tourism Development Corporation, in engaging in marketing and promotional campaigns which bring the State's tourism attractions and possibilities to the attention of foreign tour operators and prospective tourists themselves.

Despite being unique tourists' destination, Asom has some challenges as well, which directly and indirectly curb the growth of tourism. These are as such, other tourist destinations as Maharashtra, Kerala, Rajasthan etc. are posing stiff completions for Asom, through providing better tourism based infrastructures, developing the resources and by marketing aggressively about themselves as a great tourist destination.

Tourists daunted long distances to access to Asom and its districts due to poor transportation system, conditions of roads and poor tourist facilities Social problems like causes of insurgency etc. should be curbed or resolved and provisions to give complete security cover for the tourists. Infrastructures, if not improved, especially roads, solid waste management, power and accommodation, it would create major hindrances in the development of tourism in Asom. General public requires be educating and informing about tourism and their supports to its developments.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Tourist arrivals in Asom state showed an increasing trend during the study period. Though compound annual growth rate of domestic tourist arrivals into Asom state was registered as 14.20 per cent, but there is a tremendous instability in domestic tourist arrivals which was shown by the variation in the tourist arrivals which is

almost 40.72 per cent. It is also observed that a great variation in year to year change ranging from 0.89 to 92.91 per cent.

Although there is a great variation as recorded in foreign tourist arrivals to Asom is observed in year to year change which was ranging from 1.44 to 58.56 during the study period but it is much less when compared to the domestic tourist arrivals to the state. Asom remained and maintaining its lions share in attracting tourist arrivals among other states of NER, followed by Meghalaya, Sikkim and Nagaland in the region where as very few tourist arrivals were visited to Nagaland with a low percent in domestic tourist arrivals to NER in 2011. In attracting foreign tourist arrivals into different states lions share is captured by Sikkim and second position is occupied by Asom and followed by Meghalaya in the third position and Manipur is the state least visited by foreign tourists during the period 2010 and 2011.

Andhra Pradesh occupied the first place in domestic tourist visits among 35 states and union territories, and Asom in 18th rank but in foreign tourist arrivals where as Tamilnadu occupied first position in attracting tourists. Manipur state stood in the last position in attracting foreign tourists. Share of Asom in Domestic tourists in North Eastern Region increased and registered a share of 67.50 per cent and 31.06 per cent as on 2009-10 in domestic and foreign tourist arrivals into North Eastern Region. Its share in total tourist arrivals is 75.73 per cent as on the date. Over all, Asom is leading in attracting both domestic and foreign tourists in NER, registered 75.73 percent of total tourist arrivals to this region during 2009-10.

It was found that the tourism sector has occupied a lions share in North East Region, with almost 75 per cent its share in India is only 0.075 per cent, 0.0021 per cent in Asia Pacific and 0.00044 per cent in the world tourist arrivals as on 2009-2010. It is suggested to increase its share in the world and in Asia Pacific region, and to attract foreign tourist arrivals into the State of Asom, identification of ground level reality is considered necessary for the growth of tourism sector in the state, the state governments should take actions to develop border tourism as well because it is surrounded with Myanmar, Bhutan and Bangladesh. It is also advisable to

encourage private sector into tourism field in order to attract private investment into the state and a well coordinated tourism plan and policy of private and public sector is required at the present scenario to develop tourism in the state. In addition to this, actions should be immediately initiated to remove inner line permits, apart from settling down basic bottlenecks like infrastructure, transportation and insurgency problems to encourage tourism sector to grow.

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Years	Domestic Tourist arrivals into Asom (in lakh)	Year to year change (%)
2000-01	10.07	-
2001-02	10.16	0.89
2002-03	19.60	92.91
2003-04	21.63	10.36
2004-05	22.94	6.05
2005-06	26.45	15.30
2006-07	34.87	31.83
2007-08	36.18	3.76
2008-09	38.52	6.46
2009-10	40.51	5.16
2010-11	43.39	7.11
CAGR	14.20%	-
CV	40.72	-

Table-1: Domestic Tourist Arrivals

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues

Table-2: Foreign Tourist Arrivals

Years	Foreign Tourist arrivals in to Asom	Year to year change (%)
2000-01	5959	-
2001-02	6171	3.56
2002-03	6409	3.86
2003-04	6610	3.14
2004-05	7285	10.21
2005-06	8352	14.65
2006-07	13243	58.56
2007-08	14376	8.56
2008-09	14942	3.94
2009-10	15157	1.44
2010-11	16423	8.35
CAGR	9.65%	-
CV	39.27	-

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues

Table-3: Domestic Tourist Arrivals into North East Region

Years	2009		2010		2011	
Sates	Domestic Tourist Arrivals (in lakh)	% to Total	Domestic Tourist Arrivals (in lakh)	% to Total	Domestic Tourist Arrivals (in lakh)	% to Total
Asom	38.50	66.72	40.50	65.69	43.40	68.11
Arunachal Pradesh	1.95	3.38	2.28	3.70	2.33	3.66
Manipur	1.24	2.15	1.14	1.85	1.34	2.10
Meghalaya	5.91	10.24	6.53	10.59	6.67	10.47
Mizoram	0.56	0.97	0.57	0.92	0.62	0.97
Nagaland	0.21	0.36	0.211	0.34	0.25	0.39
Sikkim	6.16	10.68	7.00	11.35	5.52	8.66
Tripura	3.17	5.49	3.42	5.55	3.59	5.63
Total	57.70	100.00	61.651	100.00	63.72	100.00

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues & Basic Statistics of NRE, Shillong, Ministry of Tourism, Government websites.

Table-4: Foreign Tourist Arrivals into North East Region

Years	2009		2010		2011	
Sates	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (in lakh)	% to Total	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (in lakh)	% to Total	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (in lakh)	% to Total
Asom	0.149	35.99	0.152	29.80	0.164	27.80
Arunachal Pradesh	0.039	9.42	0.034	6.67	0.048	8.14
Manipur	0.003	0.72	0.004	0.78	0.006	1.02
Meghalaya	0.045	10.87	0.042	8.24	0.048	8.14
Mizoram	0.005	1.21	0.007	1.37	0.007	1.19
Nagaland	0.014	3.38	0.011	2.16	0.021	3.56
Sikkim	0.117	28.26	0.208	40.78	0.236	40.00
Tripura	0.042	10.14	0.052	10.20	0.060	10.17
Total	0.414	100.00	0.510	100.00	0.590	100.00

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues & Basic Statistics of NRE, Shillong, Ministry of Tourism, Government websites.

Table-5: Domestic and Foreign Tourist Visits to States and Union Territories during 2009 – 2011

(Figures in Lakhs)

State/ Union Territory	2009		2010		2011	
	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign	Domestic	Foreign
Andhra Pradesh	1574.899	7.952	1557.896	3.228	1531.198	2.646
Arunachal Pradesh	1.951	0.039	2.279	0.034	2.332	0.048
Asom	38.505	0.149	40.509	0.152	43.395	0.164
Andaman & Nicobar islands	1.420	0.137	1.808	0.146	2.022	0.158
Bihar	157.847	4.230	184.918	6.357	183.975	9.725
Chandigarh	9.147	0.380	9.055	0.393	9.099	0.372
Chhattisgarh	5.116	0.013	5.663	0.016	6.444	0.017
Dadra & Nagar, Haveli	5.006	0.071	4.956	0.017	4.223	0.014
Daman & Diu	5.635	0.057	7.742	0.051	8.329	0.045
Delhi	88.340	19.583	135.584	18.937	154.289	21.599
Goa	21.271	3.766	22.018	4.441	22.250	4.459
Gujarat	159.099	1.027	188.613	1.307	210.175	1.660
Haryana	64.084	1.371	69.153	1.064	59.881	1.304
Himachal Pradesh	110.366	4.006	128.120	4.536	146.049	4.845
Jammu & Kashmir	92.349	0.545	99.732	0.481	130.715	0.716
Jharkhand	76.102	0.139	68.853	0.157	107.963	0.725
Karnataka	327.016	3.269	382.021	3.810	841.074	5.740
Kerala	77.894	5.487	85.951	6.593	93.815	7.330
Lakshadweep	0.066	0.043	0.077	0.015	0.094	0.006
Madhya Pradesh	231.062	2.008	380.796	2.504	441.198	2.696
Maharashtra	306.284	24.264	484.655	50.831	553.335	48.154
Manipur	1.242	0.003	1.141	0.004	1.345	0.006
Meghalaya	5.914	0.045	6.528	0.042	6.675	0.048
Mizoram	0.567	0.005	0.573	0.007	0.622	0.007
Nagaland	0.210	0.014	0.211	0.011	0.254	0.021
Orissa	68.915	0.457	75.916	0.504	82.713	0.607
Punjab	53.700	1.104	105.835	1.371	164.166	1.510
Pondicherry	8.512	0.540	8.359	0.510	8.979	0.523
Rajasthan	255.587	10.734	255.439	12.785	271.373	13.520
Sikkim	6.156	0.177	7.000	0.208	5.525	0.236
Tamil Nadu	1157.558	23.691	1191.882	28.045	1375.130	33.739
Tripura	3.175	0.042	3.423	0.052	3.595	0.060
Uttar Pradesh	1348.319	15.503	1447.550	17.327	1554.304	18.871
Uttarakhand	219.346	1.065	302.060	1.273	259.463	1.247
West Bengal	205.285	11.804	210.723	11.9222	222.570	12.133
Total	6688.005	143.723	7477.034	179.102	8508.566	194.949

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues.

Table-6: Domestic and Foreign tourist visits to North Eastern Region and Asom during 2000-10

(Tourist Arrivals in lakhs)

Years	Domestic Tourist Arrivals to			Foreign Tourist Arrivals to			Total Tourist Arrivals to		
	North East Region	Asom	%	North East Region	Asom	%	North East Region	Asom	%
2000-01	1449856	1007536	69.49	11440	5959	52.09	1461296	1013495	69.36
2001-02	1565855	1016822	64.94	10139	6171	60.86	1575994	1022993	64.91
2002-03	2620795	1960318	74.80	13481	6409	47.54	2634276	1966727	74.66
2003-04	2921811	2163288	74.04	17512	6610	37.75	2939323	2169898	73.82
2004-05	3164392	2293915	72.49	24843	7285	29.32	3189235	2301200	72.16
2005-06	3266927	2645361	80.97	20343	8352	41.06	3287270	2653713	80.73
2006-07	5740767	3487423	60.75	19670	13243	67.33	5760437	3500666	60.77
2007-08	4633942	3617734	78.07	40484	14376	35.51	4674426	3632110	77.70
2008-09	5062836	3851735	76.08	44493	15874	35.68	5107329	3867609	75.73
2009-10	5770000	3856532	66.84	41402	14927	36.05	5811402	3871459	66.62
2010-11	6165102	4054582	65.77	51005	15246	29.89	6216107	4069828	65.47
2011-12	6372051	4345426	68.20	59004	16458	27.89	6431055	4361884	67.83
CAGR	14.41%	14.21%		16.08%	9.68%		14.42%	14.19%	-
CV	41.87	39.20	-	54.71	38.63	-	41.90	39.19	-

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues & Basic Statistics of NRE, Shillong, Ministry of Tourism, Government websites.

Table-7: Share of Asom in NER, India, Asia Pacific and World in tourist arrivals

(Tourist Arrivals in lakhs)

Years	Tourist Arrivals to								
	Asom	North East Region	% of Asom	India	% of Asom	Asia-Pacific	% of Asom	World	% of Asom
2000-01	10.13495	14.61296	69.36	25400	0.04	1145000	0.0009	6834000	0.00015
2001-02	10.22993	15.75994	64.91	23800	0.04	1234000	0.0008	7032000	0.00015
2002-03	19.66727	26.34276	74.66	27300	0.07	1119000	0.0018	6910000	0.00028
2003-04	21.69898	29.39323	73.82	34600	0.06	1434000	0.0015	7620000	0.00028
2004-05	23.01200	31.89235	72.16	39200	0.06	1546000	0.0015	8034000	0.00029
2005-06	26.53713	32.87270	80.73	44500	0.06	1660000	0.0016	8460000	0.00031
2006-07	35.00666	57.60437	60.77	50800	0.07	1820000	0.0019	8940000	0.00039
2007-08	36.32110	46.74426	77.70	52800	0.07	1841000	0.0020	9170000	0.00040
2008-09	38.67609	51.07329	75.73	51700	0.07	1809000	0.0021	8820000	0.00044
2009-10	38.71459	58.11402	66.62	68310	0.06	1010000	0.0038	8830000	0.00044
2010-11	40.69828	62.16107	65.47	76560	0.05	1150000	0.0035	9400000	0.00043
2011-12	43.61884	64.31055	67.83	87030	0.05	1240000	0.0035	9830000	0.00044
CAGR	14.19%	14.42%	-	11.85%	-	0.73%	-	03.36%	-
CV	39.20	41.90	-	40.31	-	20.73	-	11.77	-

Source: Ministry of Tourism & Government of India various issues & Basic Statistics of NRE, Shillong, Ministry of Tourism, Government websites.