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Development Sectors Induced By Kannur International Airport In A Regional Perspective: Special Focus On Tourism

The 4th International Airport of Kerala in Kannur near Mattannur is expected to have a huge socio- economic impact in the region in all sectors of development like Agriculture, Tourism, Exporting and Importing etc. The airport is located at the junction of Thalassery- Coorg road and Kannur road which imparts strategic importance in a regional perspective to catchment districts like Wayanad, Kasargod, Calicut and Kodagu. But most of the developments and opportunities in and around Airport influence area and catchment districts being in a regional scale is not properly tapped and infra structural facilities are inadequate to meet the needs of the travellers. This Airport has a huge potential to showcase the least explored region in Kerala, i.e. Malabar, which is a nutshell of opportunities and possibilities and unique in terms of Culture, Arts, History, tourism etc. The aim is to evolve strategies and plan for the development sectors induced by Kannur International Airport in a regional perspective with special focus on tourism concentrating the districts like Wayanad, Kannur and Kasargod. The northern region of Kerala especially Kannur, Kasargod and Wayanad districts which grabs less attention has the advantages of long coastline, backwaters, high range tourism and vast scope for the development of cultural and heritage tourism. The planning interventions focus on identifying such potentials primarily dealing with tourism on such areas induced by Kannur Airport and on linking those synergies to enable these areas to function as multi-functional face from a random, haphazard development to a carefully planned long term growth which benefits a region as a whole. This will gradually enhance the tourist inflow into the region and thereby the traffic in Kannur airport also may increase due to the proximity of Kannur airport to the tourist places too.

***Keywords-**Sector development, Kannur Airport, Tourism, North Malabar, Tourism circuits*