

# **REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL EXCURSION TO NAINITAL BY THIRD YEAR HONOURS STUDENTS**

**STUDY AREA:** NAINITAL, UTTARAKHAND.

**DURATION:** 07/12/2018 to 14/12/2018

## **OBJECTIVES**

To acquire knowledge of how fieldwork for a micro level geographical study is conducted in an urban area and to prepare a report on the basis of primary and secondary data collected. Students are taught how to design a questionnaire and conduct a socio-economic survey for collection of primary data, to process and analyze the raw data.

This field study was done to assess the impact of the remarkable physical environment on the location and origin of Nainital Lake; present a socio-economic and demographic profile; highlight the quality of life enjoyed by the residents through analysis of the various facilities available to them and finally their perceptions regarding general living conditions as well as the arrival of tourists.

## **LOCATION**

Commonly known as the “Lake District of India”, Nainital (29° 24’ N, 79° 27’ E) is one of the most beautiful hill stations in North India. Surrounded by mountains on three sides Nainital is located around the beautiful lake Naini Tal. This lake resort is situated at a height of 1,938 meters. There are many legends associated with the place. According to one, Nainital has derived its name from the Goddess Naina while the other legend says that when the Goddess Sati lost her eyes, she was being carried by Lord Shiva and a lake was formed. (‘Naina’ means eyes and ‘Tal’ means lake.) This beautiful small town is surrounded by seven hills, popularly known as ‘Sapta-Shring’ – Ayarpata, Deopata, Handi-Bandi, Naina, Alma, Lariya-Kanta and Sher-Ka-Danda. The majestic mountains and the sparkling waters of the lake add an immense lot to the beauty of the town. Nainital is one of the most beautiful and important administrative divisions of Uttarakhand.

## **Field work**

- i. Observations of landform and physical characteristics of the region.
- ii. Collection of the ward map from Nainital Nagar Palika office and preparation of a land use map of the ward 1, 3&7 for detailed study by land use survey.
- iii. Data collection from the Nainital Nagar Palika office regarding various demographic aspects
- iv. Data collection from the Tourist Office, Nainital regarding arrival of tourists.

- v. Collection of primary data on various demographic and socio-economic aspects through questionnaire survey of households of the ward 1, 3&7.
- vi. A perception study of the surveyed households regarding living conditions as well as the impact of tourism.
- vii. A thorough market Survey along the Mall Road starting from Tallital to Mallital to depict the commercial scenario of the eastern part of the Naini Lake.
- viii. Taking photographs of the various aspects of Nainital.

### **Post field Work**

This involved compilation of the final report on the basis of various data and information collected from the field as well as further reference work to supplement the field notes.



Group photo of excursion to Nainital