Application of Web GIS for Tourism - Case Study of Latur District

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Abstract—**Latur district is selected as study area for the present study. Latur is one of the drought districts of Marathwada regions of Maharashtra State. It suddenly became famous after it was worst hit by an earthquake on 30/09/1993 at 03:55 hrs with an intensity of 6.0-6.5 on Rictcher's scale causing an enormous damage to the area in the loss of human life, livestock standing crops and property. The study area lies between north latitudes 17°55'00'' and 18°50'00'' and east longitude 76°15' 00'' and 77°15'00'' .The district has a geographical area of 7157 km^2. out of which only 35 km^2 is covered by forest, where cultivable area is 6423 km^{2}and net sown area is 5610 km^2. The district head quarter is located at Latur town. For Administrative convenience, the district is divided in 10 tahsils viz, Latur, Ahmedpur, Udgir, Nilanga, Ausa, Renapur, Chakur, Shirur-Anantpal, Deoni and Jalkot. It has a population of 2080285 as per 2001 census.Latur district is historical region of Maharashtra. There are number of places situated here which are steeped in history and have their own tale to tell. Prime among such places are the forts, towns and villages situated here in the district which date back to ancient times. Among the oldest places of tourist attractions located here is the small town of Kasarshirshi where inscriptions dating back to 696-697 AD have been found. Other places of interest in the district include the Udgir fort, Ausa fort, Hattibet-Devarjan, the Nilanga temple, Lord Shiva temple at Shirur Anatpal, Sai Nandanwanm etc.**

The present study aims at developing a Web GIS based Latur District Tourist Information System .This study will help to find tourist place location, their facilities and additional information. It is observed that in present study Historical, religious and geographical factor play important role in spatial distribution and pattern of tourist place in Latur district.In Latur district mostly religious places are found. This study will be useful to planner administrators, layman and who are interested in research in the field of tourism geography

Keywords: WebGIS ,Tourisim, GIS, Toutist Places

I. INTRODUCTION

Latur district is historical area of Maharashtra. There are a number of places situated here which are steeped in history and have their own tale to tell. Prime among such places are the forts, towns and villages situated here in the district which date back to ancient times. Among the oldest places of tourist attractions located here is the small town of Kasarshirshi where inscriptions dating back to 696-697 AD have been found. Other places of interest in the district include the Udgir fort, Ausa fort, Hattibet-Devarjan, the Nilanga temple, Lord Shiva temple at Shirur Anatpal etc. The various places of tourism in Latur district are discussed in this study.

II. STUDY AREA

Latur is one of the drought district of Marathwada regions of Maharashtra state. It suddenly became famous after it was worst hit by an earthquake on 30/09/1993 at 0355 hrs with an intensity of 6.0-6.5 on Rictcher's scale causing an enormous damage to the area in the loss of human life, livestock standing crops and property. It is situated in the south-eastern part of the State, and at the border of Maharashtra and Karnataka States. It lies between north latitudes 17°55'00'' and 18°50'00'' and east longitude 76°15' 00'' and 77°15'00'' and falls in parts of Survey of India degree sheets 56 B, 56 C and 56 F. The district has a geographical area of 7157 km^2. out of which only 35 km^{2}is covered by forest, whereas cultivable area is 6423 km^2 and net sown area is 5610 km^2. The district forms part of Godavari basin. Manjra River is the main river flowing through the district. The district headquarters is located at Latur town. For Administrative convenience, the district is divided in 10 talukas viz, Latur, Ahmedpur, Udgir,Nilanga, Ausa, Renapur, Chakur, Shirur-Anantpal, Deoni and Jalkot. It has a population of 2080285 as per 2001 census. The district has 5 Nagar Parishads, 10 Panchayat Samitis and 786 Gram Panchayats. The winter season commences by the end of November when night temperature decreases rapidly. December is generally the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperature at 29.5°C and the mean daily minimum temperature at about 15°C. On some occasions the minimum temperature drops down to 4 or 5°C due to western disturbances. May is generally the hottest month with temperature at 40°C and daily minimum temperature 27 °C. In summer the humidity is less than 25%.The normal annual rainfall over the district varies from 650 mm to 800mm and it increases from southwest to northeast. It's minimum in the southern part of the district around Nilanga and increases towards north east and reaches a maximum around Udgir. The study of negative departures of the annual rainfall over normal reveals that entire district experienced moderate, severe and acute drought conditions for more than 20% of year.

III. OBJECTIVE

1) To collect Latur tourism information.

2) To prepare web map for Latur tourist places.

IV DATABASE METHODOLOGY

In this study all secondary data is used like spatial data from SOI toposeet, Google earth and no-spatial data is collected from various information sources like internet, Latur truism guide map & book. To complete this work empirical knowledge is used. In this study to get desire output Microsoft excel, Google earth, Autodesk map, Arc GIS and Alov Map software's are used.
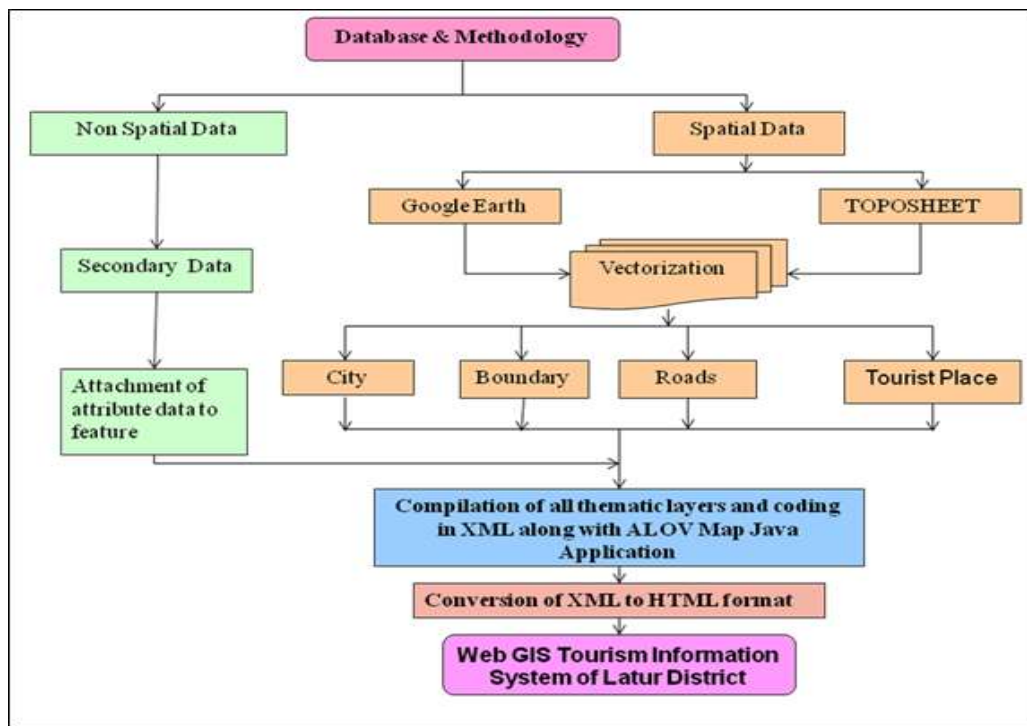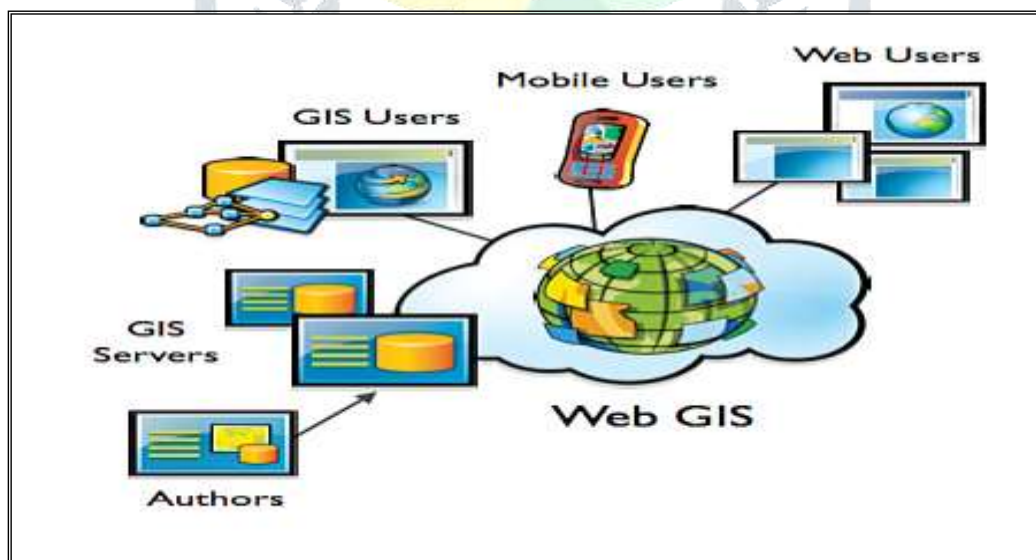

Figure1.Methodology

Figure2. WebGIS

V RESULT AND ANALYSIS

In this study Latur district 98 tourist places are consider. In Latur district are having 31 major and67 minor tourist places, over study it is found that out of 98 tourist places mostly religious place are found. In Latur distict mostly tourist place does not have lodge facility but it is not major problem, due to good road connectivity people can get lodge facility from nearest place. Maximum tourist places are located in Latur, Udgir and Ahmadpur taluka.
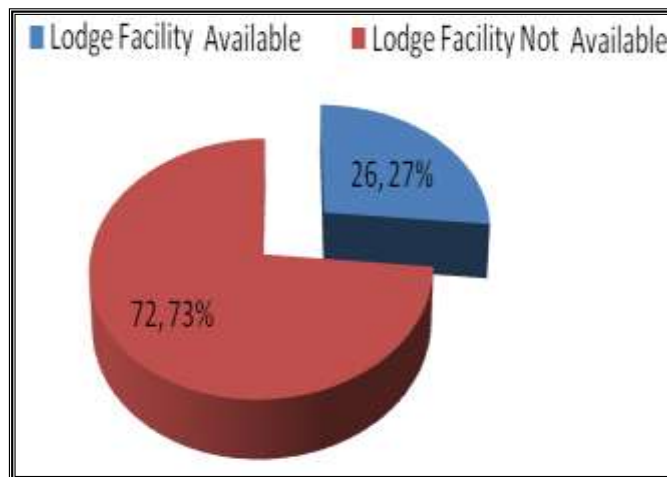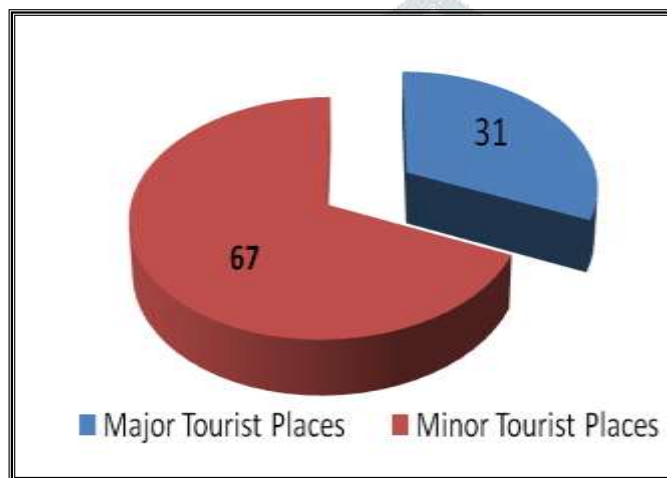
Figure3.Major & Minor Tourist Places
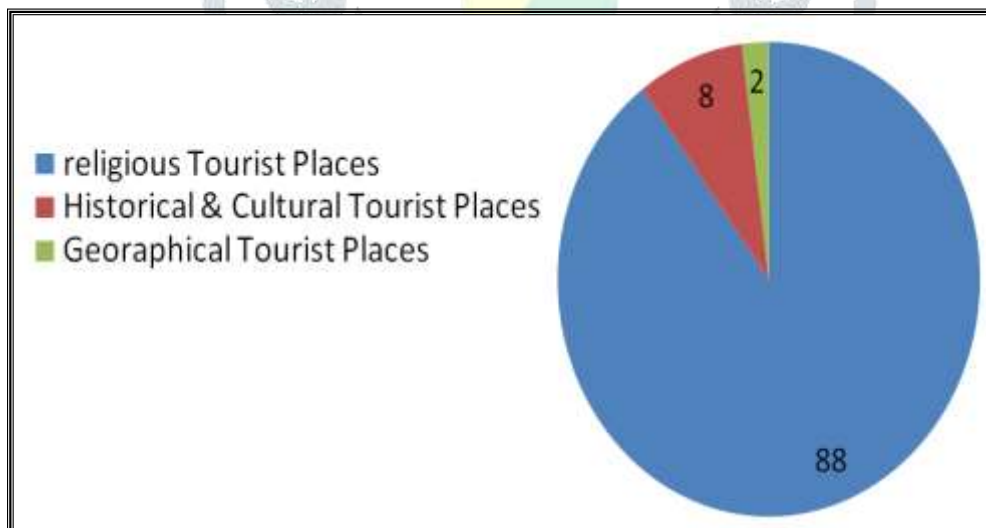

Figure4. Facility of Tourist Places

Figure5. Category of Tourist Places

Distribution of Tourist places

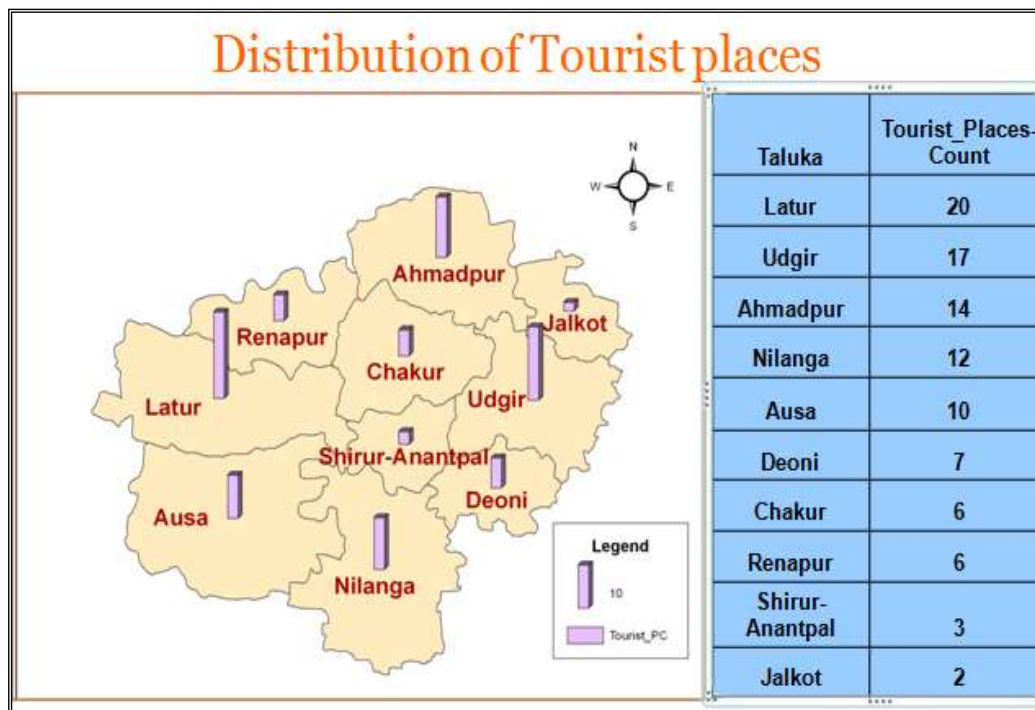| Taluka	Tourist_Places-Count
Latur	20
Udgir	17
Ahmadpur	14
Nilanga	12
Ausa	10
Deoni	7
Chakur	6
Renapur	6
Shirur-Anantpal	3
Jalkot	2

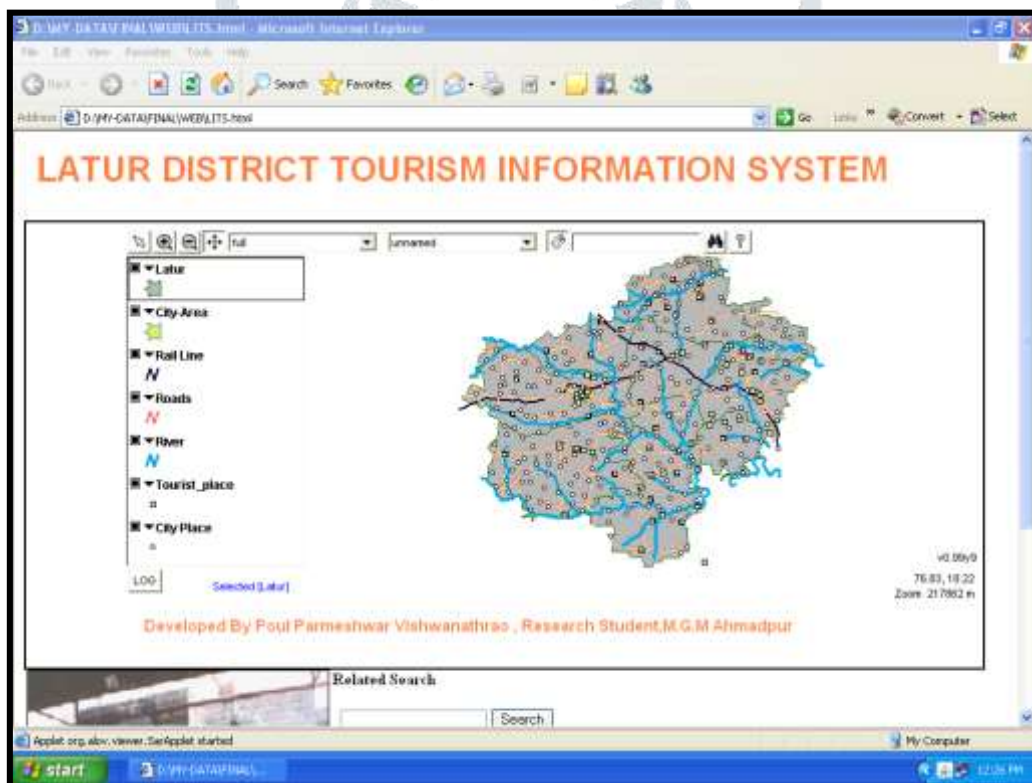**Figure6. Distribution of Tourist Places**

Figure7. WebGIS of Latur

VI. CONCLUSION

This study will help to find tourist place location, their facilities and additional information. It is observed that in present study Historical, religious and geographical factor play important role in spatial distribution and pattern of tourist place. In Latur district mostly religious place are found. This study will useful to planner administrators, layman and who are interested in research in the field of tourism.

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