Answer any FIVE questions out of the following.

PART A — (5 x 6 = 30 marks)

Maximum: 100 marks

Time: Three hours

ECO TOURISM

TouriSM

Third Semester

DECEMBER 2014/ JANUARY 2015

M.B.A. DEGREE EXAMINATION

MBTM 3005
6. Differentiate between nature-based tourism and ecotourism.

7. What are the different types of mass tourism?

8. Explain the prevailing issues of ecotourism.

PART B — (5 x 10 = 50 marks)

Answer any FIVE questions out of the following.

9. Explain the role of department of forest and environment in eco tourism development.

10. Discuss the fundamentals of ecology.

11. Discuss the benefits of community participation from ecotourism projects.

12. Explain the concept of tourism policy and justify why there is a need for ecotourism policy?

13. Discuss about the Quebec declaration 2002 on Ecotourism.

14. Discuss the impacts of tourism activities that pose serious threats to ecology and environment.

15. State the meaning, types and processes of ecosystems.

16. Explain the various techniques of conservation of Eco tourism.
The government of Kerala has introduced the concept of ecotourism in 12 wildlife sanctuaries and national parks. The Department of Forest, Government of Kerala, is a means to achieve sustainable development. The principles of sustainable tourism as ecotourism and these ecotourism sites are developed as per destinations have been identified in 14 districts. destinations tourism in the state. As many as 56 ecotourism and contribute to the total revenue generated from per cent annual growth. Ecotourism is a key billion from tourism that is estimated to be Rs. 69.3 billion. The state is expected to receive Rs. 81.8 billion. As per the economy to the tune of Rs. 81.8 billion. As per the Kerala's one of the major income earners, forest tourism is. One of Kerala’s tourism promotion activities is known for promoting ecotourism activities for. Activities include trekking, bird watching trails, etc. Kerala is promoting nature conservation and ecotourism in Kerala.

17. What are the primary benefits of ecotourism in Kerala?

PART C — (1 x 20 = 20 marks)
objective of promoting ecotourism activities in the protected sanctuaries and parks is to prevent the local community members from destroying the forest and killing wild animals. The Department of Forest has also introduced the constitution of Eco-development Committees / Participatory Forest Management Committees (Vana Samrakshana Samithi) to empower local community members to take their own decisions to plan for ecotourism as it is an alternative source of income for the community. This is the way through which benefits of ecotourism can be percolated to the local people and the support of local community for forest protection can be largely motivated. For examples, Konni is an identified ecotourism site in Pathanamthitta district in Kerala and it is an important part of the Western Ghat.

Seeing the elephants is the primary attraction of this ecotourism site. This means that wildlife watching is an important activity of Konni. Other activities that an eco-tourist can enjoy include trekking, rock climbing, elephant safari, wilderness camping, river cruise by rafting, wildlife watching, bird watching. The production of rubber plantation and the cultivation of pepper and ginger provides different rural experience to eco-tourists. Konni is a model forest-based ecotourism development initiative due to the joint efforts of Department of Tourism and Department of Forest. There are two types of ecotourism zone: Soft and Hard ecotourism zones. The VSS of Konni manages the entry of visitors and facilities for eco-tourists. Several measures have been undertaken to ensure the long-term sustainability of ecotourism programmes in Konni and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is also being done time to time to maintain the development in harmony with the capacity of ecosystem. Training programmes for local guides, local vendors, souvenir and handicrafts manufacturers, small local transport operators are organized for self-employment activities. Thrust is given to local horticulture, handicrafts that can contribute to local economic development considerably. Private investment outside the forest for the construction of eco-friendly resorts, eco-lodges, etc has been allowed with the condition to satisfy the ecotourism principles. Several private estates adjoining the forest ecosystems have been converted to eco-lodges.

Questions

(a) Why the Department of Forest. Government of Kerala has taken decision to promote ecotourism?

(b) What are functions of Eco-development Committee?

(c) What are the ecotourism activities at Konni?