

## Preface

State Government with the objective of giving impetus to the development of the regions which have remained underdeveloped has established a conglomerate of Tourism Development Authorities under the aegis of Tourism and Culture Department. A number of Tourism Development Authorities have been established for ensuring the economic development of these regions. Tourism and Culture Department has entrusted Town Planning Organisation, Kashmir with the preparation of the Master Plans for some of these Development Authorities. Kokernagh Development Authority including the areas of Kokernagh, Achabal and Daksum is one of the earliest established Tourism Development Authority. Master Plan for Kokernagh Local Area has already been completed and stands approved by the Cabinet. The 'Draft Master Plan' for Achabal is a step towards a complete and comprehensive policy document for the whole Kokernagh Development Authority local area.

The proposals in the Master Plan have been worked out based on the requirements of the projected tourist flow and the need for social and physical infrastructure for the local population. The planning process in the in the Master Plan has been geographically hierarchical starting from the trans-boundary region ***Achabal-Verinagh-Kokernagh-Daksum-Marwah-Dachin-Kishtwar-Doda, Achabal-Verinagh-Kokernagh-Daksum*** and ***Achabal-Mattan-Ashmuqam-Pahalgam*** sub-regions, and the local area of Achabal Municipal Committee. The Master Plan is being envisaged as a platform for the preparation of DPRs of infrastructure development, conservation of natural and cultural resources, promotion of ecotourism in the region for ensuring economic growth as well as acting as poverty reduction strategy (PRS) for the local population. The Kokernagh Development Authority should take up the implementation of the various projects and schemes of the Master Plan as envisaged in the Plan. The zoning regulations, building byelaws and the facade control measures shall be strictly adhered to while regulating all kinds of building activity in the local area.

The Draft Master Plan Achabal-2032 is being submitted to the Tourism Development Authority, Achabal for its publication under the provisions of the Jammu and Kashmir Act, 1970. The Master Plan is being published for seeking observations and suggestions from all stakeholders including line departments.

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## C O N T E N T S

Chapter	Page No.
Preface	i
<b>Chapter – I</b>	
<b>1.0 Profile and Regional Settings</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Need for the Project	1 - 2
1.3 Objectives	2
1.4 Methodology	2 – 3
1.5 Scope	3
1.6 Tourism Master Plan Defined	3
1.6.1 Nature of the Master Plan for Achabal	3
1.6.2 Natural Drainage	4
1.7 Local Area of Achabal Master Plan	4
1.8 Regional Area of Achabal Master Plan	4 -5
1.9 Socio-Economic Characteristics	5
1.9.1 Population of Proposed Local Area	5
1.9.2 Work Force/Employment	5
1.9.3 Economic Base	5 – 6
<b>Chapter – II</b>	
<b>2.0 Achabal in Regional Context</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1 Socio-Economic & Demographic Characteristics – Geographical Scales	7 – 8
2.2 Demographic Comparison	9
2.2.1 Population and Size	10
2.2.2 Density	10
2.3 Socio-Economic Parameters	10
2.3.1 Work Force Participation Rate	10 – 11

## C O N T E N T S

Chapter	Page No.
2.4 Road Network	11
2.4.1 Existing Road Network	11
2.5 Existing Land Use	11 – 15
2.5.1 Incompatible/Inefficient Land Uses	15 – 16
2.6 Housing Issues and Problems	16
2.6.1 Household/Family Size	16
2.6.2 Income Distribution	17
2.6.3 Condition of Structures	17 – 18
<b>Chapter – III</b>	
<b>3.0 Tourism – Theoretical Framework</b>	<b>19</b>
3.1 Tourism Attraction/Resource	19
3.1.1 Scenic and Adventure Tourism	19
3.1.2 Heritage and Cultural Tourism	19
3.2 Regional Tourism Circuits and Road Infrastructure	20
3.2.1 International Tourism Scenario	20 – 21
3.2.2 Indian Tourism Scenario	21
3.2.3 State Tourism Scenario	21 – 22
3.3 Tourism Potential of the Region	22 – 23
3.3.1 Scenic	23
3.3.2 Adventure	24
3.3.3 Heritage	24 – 25
3.3.4 Educational	25
3.3.5 Pilgrim	25
3.3.6 Cultural	25
3.3.7 Eco-tourism	26
3.4 Existing Infrastructure at Achabal	26 – 29

3.5 SWOT Analysis

29

**C O N T E N T S****Chapter****Page No.**

3.6 Stakeholder Analysis

30 – 32

3.7 Existing and Potential Requirements

32 – 33

3.8 Tourist Flow and Demand Forecast Analysis

34 – 35

**Chapter – IV****4.0 Spatial Growth, Analysis and Projections****36**

4.1 Physical Pattern - Issues

36 - 38

4.2 Projections

38 - 39

4.3 Structural Changes in workforce

39 - 40

4.4 Projected Workforce

40 – 44

**Chapter – V****5.0 Planning Development Policy for the Region****45**

5.1 Development Potential

45-47

5.2 Tourism Policy for the Region

47

5.2.1 Objectives of Tourism Policy for the Region

47 - 48

5.2.2 Salient features of Tourism Development Policy for the Achabal Tourist Region

48 – 49

5.2.3 Planning Methodology

49 - 50

5.2.4 Strategy for Tourism Development

51

**Chapter – VI****6.0 Land Use Development Proposals****52**

6.1 Land Suitability Analysis and Land Use Policy for the Region.

52

6.2 Conservation of forests in the Region

53

6.3 Proposed Land Use – 2032

53 - 55

6.3.1 Residential Use

55 - 56

6.4 Housing Demand

56 - 57

6.4.1 Proposed Housing Policy

57 - 59

6.5 Tourist Infrastructure

59

**C O N T E N T S****Chapter****Page No.**

6.5.1	Tourist Accommodation	59 – 60
6.5.2	Tourist Information Centre	61
6.6	Parks, Gardens & Arboretums	61
6.7	Wayside Amenities	61
6.8	Craft Centres	61 - 62
6.9	Health and Education	62
6.10	Community facilities	62
6.11	Transportation	62 - 63
6.11.1	Transport Network Characteristics	63 – 64
6.11.2	Regional Traffic (Passengers/Buses)	64
6.11.3	Bus Terminal, Taxi Stand/Auto Stands	64
6.11.4	Traffic & Transportation Proposals	65 - 68
6.12	Solid Waste Management	69 – 68
6.13	Water Supply	68 – 69
6.14	Sewerage Disposal Treatment	69 – 70

**Chapter – VII****7.0 Development Promotion Rules & Regulations****71**

7.1	Zoning Regulations	71 - 81
7.2	Façade Control Measures	82
7.3	Design Concepts & Proportions of Building Elements	82 - 83
7.3.1	Land Slope and Contours	83
7.3.2	Landforms and Geographical Character of Soil	83
7.3.3	Impact on Environment	83
7.3.4	Energy Efficient Planning	83
7.3.5	Roofs	84
7.3.6	Chimneys	84 - 85
7.3.7	Wall Finishes and Foundations	84 – 85
7.3.8	Colours	85

7.3.9 Window shapes & Glazing of Openings	85
---	----

---

**C O N T E N T S**

---

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
7.3.10 Entry Areas	85
7.3.11 Outdoor Elements	86
7.3.12 Signage	87
7.3.13 Night Lighting	87
7.3.14 Screening and Enclosure of Service Areas	87
7.3.15 External Spaces	87
7.3.16 Parking	87
7.3.17 Garbage	88
7.3.18 Public Outdoor Activities & Spaces	88
 <b>Chapter – VIII</b>	
<b>8.0 Implementation Strategy and Resource Mobilization</b>	<b>89</b>
8.1 Implementation Strategy	89 - 90
8.2 Institutional Framework	90
8.3 Resource Mobilization	91 – 92
8.4 Phasing Development	92 – 94
8.5 Reviewing and Monitoring of Master Plan	95

---

---

**LIST OF TABLES**


---

<b>Table No.</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
<b>Chapter - I</b>	
Table I.1: Proposed Local Area for Achabal Master Plan	4
<b>Chapter - II</b>	
Table II.1: WFPR and Literacy Rate-2001	8
Table II.2: Population Growth Rate of Kokernagh, Achabal & Dooru-Verinagh	9
Table: II.3: Existing Landuse Analysis of the Planning Area	12
Table: II.4: Incompatible Uses	15 – 16
<b>Chapter - III</b>	
Table: III.1: Tourist Infrastructure 1971, 2011	27
Table: III.2: Duration of Stay	28
Table: III.3: Duration of Stay of Families (Tourist Bungalow) Achabal, 1970	28
Table III.4: Stakeholders Analysis for the Master Plan	30
<b>Chapter - IV</b>	
Table: IV.1: Projected Workforce of Greater Achabal	41
<b>Chapter - VI</b>	
Table: VI.1: Proposed Landuse Analysis - Achabal Master Plan-2032	54
Table VI.2: Housing Demand for Achabal (2011-32)	57
<b>Chapter - VII</b>	
Table VII.1: Description of Planning Zones	71 - 72
Table VII.2: Description of landuses on the basis of their compatibility	73 - 79
Table: VII.3 Spatial Norms and Standards	80 - 81
<b>Chapter - VIII</b>	
Table VIII.1: Proposed Financial Model for the Development of Tourism Infrastructure at Achabal	92
Table VIII.2: Phasing of Development for Horizon Period	94

---



## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1: Income Distribution of Households in Planning Area-2010	17
Figure 2.2: Income Distribution of Households in Achabal Town-2011	17
Figure: 4.1: Population Projections – Scenario – I	38
Figure 4.2: Population Projections-Scenario II	39
Figure 4.3: Projected Workforce of Greater Achabal by Horizon Year -2032	40
Figure 4.4: Projected Primary Sector workers of Greater Achabal Chapter – III	41
Figure 4.5: Projected Secondary Sector workers of Greater Achabal	42
Figure 4.6: Projected Tertiary Sector of Achabal	44
Figure 5.1: Hierarchy of Tourism Infrastructure at Regional and Sub-regional levels	50
Figure 6.3: Housing Demand as per Income Groups	58

### LIST OF PLATES

Plate 01: Panoramic View of Achabal Tourist Destination	23
Plate 02: Landscape of Achabal Tourist Destination	23
Plate 03: Heritage Garden of Achabal Tourist Destination	24
Plate 04: Arboretum Achabal Tourist Destination	25
Plate 05: View of existing Tourist Huts in Achabal Main Bowl	27
Plate 06: Harmonious and blends with natural surroundings	82
Plate 07: Construction in response to the natural drainage of the watershed and slope of the area	82
Plate 08: Construction in response to the natural drainage	83
Plate 09: Roof elements and local material complement design and functions of structure and climate	84
Plate 10: Landscape elements reinforce the tourist destination theme	86

### LIST OF GRAPHERS

Graph II.1: Economic Development Indicators	8
Graph II.2: Social Indicators	8
Graph: II.3: Population Growth of Towns in Annantnagh District (1981-2001)	10
<i>Graph: II.4: Work Force Participation Rate</i>	10
<i>Graph: II.5: Work Force Participation Rate</i>	11

*Graph: III.1 Tourist Flow in Jammu and Kashmir*

21