

Beaches in Uttar Kannada Dist. Become Death Traps

Wed, 08 Oct 2014 - 18:00:47 | Source: S.O. News Service | Posted by: Staff Correspondent

Karwar: The beaches of Murdeshwar and Gokarna, the two major tourist and religious centres of Uttar Kannada district have become death traps. In the last four years, more than 50 people have lost their lives by drowning in the sea or getting washed away by the sea waves. Uttar Kannada district which has a coastline of 162 km has many famous beaches. These beaches are beautiful but also equally dangerous.

Many people who come here as tourists lack proper knowledge about the sea and try to challenge the sea. The sea, which looks calm and tranquil has strong undercurrent and whirls that draw water from the beach at high speed. The tourist who visit the place are not aware of these facts and try to swim against the under current and end up losing their lives. As per statistics, as many as 56 people have lost their lives in these beaches between 2011 and 2014. Apart from this, two boys were washed away in the sea near Baval in Karwar taluk just a week ago. Similarly, there have been other instances where even local people and fishermen have lost their life in the sea.

Precautionary measures

Many measures have been taken to warn people about the dangers associated with the sea. Boards have been installed on the beach creating awareness among the tourist. The board tells about the depth of the sea, facts and figures including the number of people who have lost their lives here.

Police patrol

Also, the local police patrol on the beach to ensure safety of the tourists. These policemen warn people to be cautious while enjoying the sea but tourists hardly care for it and this carelessness costs them dearly. Murdeshwar in Bhatkal taluk and Gokarna in Kumta taluk which are known for Shiva Kshetras attract hundreds of tourists from across the world every day and those tourists who visit the temple also make sure that they visit the sea. The beaches are crowded with people especially during vacations. Om beach and Kudle beach which are near Gokarna are major tourist destinations of foreign tourists. Hence precautionary steps must be taken to ensure safety of tourists of the beaches, demanded local people.