

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON SCENIC BEAUTY:

INTRODUCTION:

Scenic beauty may be broadly divided into two distinct categories, i.e. natural scenery and man-made scenery. Natural scenery includes lakes, waterfalls, mountains, rivers, wildlife and other scenery created by nature whereas man-made scenery covers a wide spectrum, such as towers, bridges, dams, specialized buildings other than historical structures, flora fauna and so on. The world renowned natural and man-made scenery includes, inter alia, the following :-

1. NATURAL SCENERY:

(a) Nature (waterfalls, rivers, etc):

Niagara Falls, Grand Canyon (USA), Rhine Falls (Germany), Rheinfall bei (Switzerland). Rhine River (Germany), Venice (Italy), Seine River (France). Angels Falls (Venezuela), Bay of Fundy (Canada), Iguassu Falls (Argentina/Brazil), Victoria Falls (Zambia/Zimbabwe).

(b) Mountains & Rocks:

Mount Everest (Nepal), Mount Fuji (Japan), Mulu Cave (Malaysia), Rockies (Canada), Pilatus Alps (Germany), Phang-Nga Bay (Thailand), Hole in the Rocks (New Zealand), Wonder Cave (South Africa), Lake Toba (Indonesia), Stone Forest (China), Great Barrier Reef (Australia), Mount Kilimanjaro (Tanzania), Paricutin Volcano (Mexico).

(c) Wildlife:

Safari (Africa), Penguins, Kangaroos (Australia), National Zoo Gardens (South Africa), Elephants Trekking (Thailand).

2. MAN-MADE SCENERY:

(a) Specialised Structures (towers, etc):

Paris Eiffel Tower (France), Sydney Tower (Australia), Clock Tower (Big Ben) Tower Bridge (England), Sydney Opera House, Tivoli Fountains (Italy), Window of the World (China), Empire State Building, Disneyland, Statue of Liberty (U.S.A.), K. L. Twin Towers (Malaysia), Statue of Cristo Redentor, Shwedagon Pagoda (Myanmar).

(b) Bridges & Dams:

TsingMa Bridge (Hong Kong), Yokohama Bay Bridge (Japan), Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco (USA), Lions Gate Bridge (Canada), Channel Tunnel (England/France), Haipu Dam (Brazil), High Dam (Egypt), Yunnan Dam (China)

(c) Flora Fauna:

Butchart Gardens, Stanley Park (Canada), Yuanminyuan (China), Bogor Botanical Gardens (Indonesia), Sea World (U.S.A.)

Therefore, any clear-cut demarcation of natural beauty is subject to contradictions as some unique scenery is the product of both natural and man-made beauty. As such, the author is inclined to include both natural and man-made scenery under the classification of scenic beauty. For more details, refer to the following Country Profile Ref. A-1.