

## Impact Of Tourism On The Environment

Dr. Rajan Chauhan

*Abstract: Although the concept of environment can best be understood as the totality of all the components surrounding the man. It means that managing human affairs in such a way that biological health diversity and ecological balance would be preserved. It is the process of carrying out activities which are concerned with the protection and enhancement of the quality of environment. Today the most alarming problem is man's assault on the environment. This article is taken from the author study on tourism of his doctoral thesis and book published by author on the topic "Tourism Management" Tourism impact on environment is from case study of author's state Himachal Pradesh. The tourism activities should carry out the process which are concerned with the protection and enhancement of the quality of the environment. Tourism directly or indirectly influences the environment. The basic questions which need to be answered are;- what are environmental hazards that result from tourism? How it can be regulated to conserve our environment. The growing no. of tourists visiting the state has resulted in rapid unplanned construction of hotels and other dwellings which are destroying the environment. The author in this study has clearly described the positive and negative outcomes of tourism impact on environment. So we have to see that the government planners and policy makers and expertise in the tourism field should see that tourism development has to be enhanced in such a way that tourism development should exploit the tourism not the tourists and the environment.*

The concept of 'Environment' can best be understood as the totality of all the components surrounding the man. Environment Administration therefore means "Managing human affairs in such a way that biological, health, diversity and ecological balance would be preserved. It is the process of carrying out activities which are concerned with the protection and enhancement of the quality of the environment"<sup>1</sup>

One of the most alarming problems of the modern time is man's assault on the environment. No doubts that the state has witnessed economic growth through Tourism and progress have brought benefits to the State, but they have also caused several social and environmental problems.

Now the planners, administrators and politicians have began a dialogue to get to the ways and means of coping with the environmental crisis, through Tourism and its development.

Edmunds and Letey define Environment Administration as a concept of "managing human affairs in such a way that biological health, diversity and ecological balance would be preserved.

Environment Administration is the process of carrying out activities which are concerned with the protection and enhancement of the quality of the environment. The area of

Environment Administration concerns human decisions which effect improve and adopt the environment.

Man in his quest for economic development and enjoyment of the riches of the nature has been carrying out a large number of developmental activities in all the fields including Tourism.

Since Tourism directly or indirectly influences the Environment the basic questions which need to be answered are: What are the environmental hazards that result from Tourism? How can we regulate them? There is no doubt that Tourism is to be given a big fillip to meet the basic instincts of unraveling the nature but care has to be taken to protect the environment as well. Let us take the example of famous resorts like Shimla and Manali. Due to "the promotion of Tourism many hotels and roads have been haphazardly built. So these areas are likely to become slums if any strict action is not taken with immediate effect. In these towns now there is a problem of the basic civic amenities like cleanliness, proper drinking water, proper drainage and sewerage system are scarce commodities in these towns. In the summers when the rush of Tourists is at its peak there is an acute shortage of water. In a town like Shimla, even the local residents have to suffer due to which there is grouse anger for the tourists

among the local population. It is very detrimental for the development of Tourism. To accommodate the growing number of tourists year by year, there is a mushroom growth of new hotels in places like Shimla, Manali, Kasauli, Dharamshala and Dalhousie etc. That is why in the year 1992 a local Guest house collapsed in Shimla where the approximately 30 peoples were killed. It was found that the Guest House was constructed on the lafcnd prone to soil erosion. After this incident the State Government has become serious and has issued orders that no new hotels or construction for commercial purposes should be built in places like Shimla, Manali, Dalhousie and Kasauli etc., because these towns have already become saturated. But this decision has not been enforced strictly because researcher have found out that there is still some unlawful constructions are coming up under the patronage of influential persons like Ministers, big politicians, senior bureaucrats, businessman and big orchardists. So, the State Government should strictly impose the prohibition on such construction without any political considerations and punish everybody who violates the law.

For the proper growth and promotion of Tourism, the environment should be good and there should be better quality of life in order to attract much more tourists.

Contrary to the demands, the findings of the researcher based on his personal visits to some tourist places and informal discussion with the tourists, have revealed that there were gross sanitation problems. The famous beautiful spots were masked by the dirt and filth. In the hotels, there are no proper drinking water facilities. The heaps of rubbish keep lying in most of the areas. The roads are not maintained properly. It is within this context that the relationship between Tourism and the Environment has been receiving a growing level of attention from the Centre and the State Government.<sup>2</sup>

According to Webster's Dictionary "Environment" refers to the surrounding conditions (as customs, laws, language, and religion, economic and political organization) that influence the life of an individual or a community.<sup>3</sup>

Lerner (1977) outlines that Environment now includes not only land, air, water flora and fauna but encompasses people, their creations, as well as, Social Economic and Cultural conditions that affect their lives.

The Environment of places has given birth to the concept of Tourism as it exerts an attraction to the Tourist. Likewise, Tourism too, owing its origin to the conservation, to keep intact the natural and human environment, is a corner stone of protection and enhancement of the environment. Development of any kind of manufacturing of service industry in a particular place or region has an inevitable effect on the environment of that place. In due course of time, modifications are witnessed in the socio economic structure, *i.e.*, standard of living, shift of economic activities, socio cultural values and changes in the ecological structure of the region.

The International Union of Official Travel Organizations (IUOTO), the predecessor of World Tourism Organization (WTO), was one of the first organizations to come to the defense of Environmental protection as early as 1950, having one of its main objectives as the study and development of natural tourist resources because the impact of mass

movement of tourists to various tourist resorts was, not healthy.<sup>4</sup>

Immense rise in the number of visitors to these areas has resulted in rapid unplanned construction of hotels and other dwellings for the use of tourists and for transferable service employees. This unplanned growth threatens to destroy the very environment that has been the tourists' attraction in the first place. There appeared an Environmental threat, both aesthetic and ecological, from the overcrowding of particularly attractive areas.<sup>5</sup>

In a research paper entitled "Study on Human Environment" which was submitted to the Twenty—Second General Assembly held at Ankara, Turkey in the year 1971, the following issues were highlighted:

- ✓ Recognition that protection of the Environment, which is at the very basis of the development of Tourism, has often been neglected in physical planning policies. That the real interests of Tourism did not lie in the immediate profitability of plan but in a rational utilization of Tourism enhancing natural resources while, far from damaging them, would contribute to their development.
- ✓ Recognition that Tourism was largely international in nature offering the natural resources to individuals of another country for their cultural enrichment and well being. So a close international cooperation is necessary for Tourism's high—quality Environmental protection measures.<sup>6</sup>
- ✓ There is lack of uniformity at international and national level in the manner in which Environmental protection is being handled.
- ✓ Himachal Pradesh is a land of lofty mountains and rivers. No other part of the country except Jammu and Kashmir is rich in scenic grandeur and the panorama of contrasting landscapes at different stages of evolution.

But there is a sufficient concentration of the visitors in some of the most popular stations of Himachal *i.e.* Shimla, Manali, Kasauli and Dalhousie etc. These hill stations look like slums during the peak summer season. To accommodate the influx of the tourists, many new buildings are constructed every year/season and this destroys the natural landscape.<sup>7</sup> A variety of sports for tourists of every age and temperaments are offered by the State Government. Fishing, Trekking, Hang Gliding, Rack climbing, Para Gliding, River-rafting, Ice-skating and Golf are some of the famous sports liked by the tourists.<sup>8</sup> The fast growing trends in technological prospects, leading to dramatic changes in socio-economic structure of the societies, accelerates the tourism. The mass Tourism demands Environmental resources in a big way and with the problem of mass Tourism, arises the issue of protecting and conserving the Environmental resources which the tourists in their wanton and holiday making moods erode, often unintentionally. So, it is necessary that while planning development works, due consideration should be paid to the fragile beauty and natural surroundings of that area.

No space action should affect the ecological balance of that area.

Any tourist activity that is permitted has to be subservient to and in conservation of nature and of the genetics and natural resources within it. Unplanned urban development along the length of our mountains (is resulting in irreparable

loss). The mountains and forests, the most beautiful gifts of nature to man, are being destroyed indiscriminately. The tourists intentionally or unintentionally create undesirable impact and introduce a disruptive influence on local traditions and social norms. The problem of litter, noise, erosion, fauna and flora needs prior attention. Tourist season is usually, in hot summer months when hot winds strike the plains of the country and people rush to hill station of the Himalayas to get relief from the scorching heat. Tourists come to enjoy the snowfall, skating and other winter sports.

The increase numbers of tourists require more and more number of vehicles. These vehicles pollute the atmosphere. The hordes of tourists in snazzy tourist's coaches and little marutis pollute the atmosphere in the health resorts. The vehicles emit carbon-dioxide, carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, hydro-carbons etc. These gases cause tuberculosis, lung cancer, asthma etc. The garbage pollution in the hill resorts spreads many diseases. The great rush of tourists destroys the eco-sys tern. The major source of water pollution is the human excreta. The refuse gets mingled with local river lakes, streams etc. The water gets polluted and causes cholera, typhoid, dysentery and many other diseases. It needs proper attention and proper sewerage management. Thus proper steps should be taken to conserve the ecological system in the water bodies of the Himalayas. All the lakes of the Himalayas should be saved from the pollution hazards. Often the tourists in the hill resorts lack the discipline to observe the rules and regulations, Local people are also often frightened and panicked over the strange and sudden unaccustomed sounds and movements of tourists. Tourists sometimes cross the restricted areas in the forests, disturbing the wild life and endangering their own lives also. To avert all the remedy could be to divert the tourist traffic to lesser known and less crowded areas. It is happy to note that Himachal Pradesh Government has opened some inner lying areas in tribal regions belts. They are also developing some other less known areas for the Tourists in order to avoid high concentration of tourists in few areas. A limit should be put on the influx of tourists and their accommodation, so that overcrowding and erosion of the environment could be evaded. These places should not be like what Shimla, Manali and Kasauli are today.<sup>10</sup>

The Government should also promote destinations for Nature Tourism to seek and to preserve the natural beauty so that the visitors enjoy the outdoors, go out for camping, or indulge in photography etc. all the activities which do not disturb the delicate eco-system of the Tourism spots.

Nature Tourism also requires the authorities to provide for shelters, transportation, equipment and guides, to make these activities feasible.

All these modifications of post development of an industry can be featured under the term impact which means the result or consequence of certain changes<sup>1</sup>.

Three important aspects of the Tourism-Environment relationship can be mentioned as follows:

- ✓ Many features of the physical environment are attraction for the tourists.
- ✓ Tourist facilities and infrastructure constitute another aspect of the built Environment.

- ✓ Tourism development and use of an area by tourists generates Environmental impacts.<sup>11</sup>

In relation to Tourism the word 'Environmental Impact' encompasses the following.

#### *IMPACT ON NATURAL ENVIRONMENT*

The natural environment includes various elements like location, landforms, water bodies; climate, society, mineral resources, natural vegetation and wildlife. All these elements provided by the nature undergo a certain extent of change if the concerned area is under the influence of tourist activity. The negative impact can be in the form of pollution, graffiti; deforestation, change in the land structure, killing and dislocation of wild life from their original habitat etc. On the contrary, the positive impact of Tourism development can be the conservation and preservation of natural and manmade Environment on the lines of sustainable tourism development.

#### *IMPACT ON ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT*

The Economic Environment is concerned with monetary aspects. Economic activities can be defined as various needs like food, clothing, shelter etc. Tourism if encouraged, leads to economic activities like changes in manufacturing or mining industries, improvement of community facilities and standard of living along with diversification of employment opportunities in building of infrastructure and subsidiary industries etc. Tourism being a 'Service Industry' is labour intensive and shows its effect as a multiplier on the economy to earn a major benefit. But, the negative impact can be the creation of Seasonal unemployment' as all destinations are not year-round destinations, having their peak and slack seasons of tourist activity.

Whatever be the economic impacts on Tourism, in the words of Andre Siegfrie, "Tourism is regarded as the '4th dimension' of economics".

#### *IMPACT ON SOCIO-CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT*

The human factor plays a pivotal role where socio-cultural environment is concerned. It includes man, the society he lives in, customs, traditions, values of a particular group of people, traditions, race religion, behavioral dispositions and language. As Tourism involves the 'flow of people' from one place to another, this flow results in 'human interaction'. This impact of Tourism is a direct result of "Guest Host Interaction" leading to many socio cultural changes. The negative impact may be commercialization of ethnic culture and infiltration of immoral activities, crime etc. The positive impact can be fostering of understanding, respect and elimination of prejudice towards people from the unknown lands. As summed up, Tourism often has significant cultural, aesthetic social and political implications.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT AND POTENTIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS**

During the Eighth Five Year Plan, the Development of Tourism as an Industry has been given a high priority in

Himachal Pradesh in view of the rich flora and fauna being ideally suited for Tourism in this hilly state. This development would have a direct impact on the growth of Tourism, leading to changes and modifications in the environment of the area concerned.

An important feature of development is carrying capacity of an area, which needs to be mentioned before analyzing the possible impacts.

“Carrying capacity” as defined by Matbieson and Wall “is the maximum number of people who can use a site without an unacceptable attraction in the physical environment and without an unacceptable decline in the quality of experience gained by the visitors. It is based on the concept of maintaining a level of development, that will not result in Environmental or socio-cultural deterioration or be perceived by tourists as depreciating their enjoyment and appreciation of the area.

In determining the carrying capacity before planning development, two aspects to be considered are:

#### *THE INDIGENOUS PHYSICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT*

This refers to the capacity which can be achieved without resulting in damage to the physical (natural and man-made) environment and generating socio-cultural and economic problems to the local community and maintaining the proper balance between development and conservation. Exceeding saturation levels may lead to either permanent damage to the physical Environment or socio-economic and cultural problems.

#### *THE TOURISM IMAGE AND TOURIST PRODUCT*

This refers to the capacity or number of visitors that are compatible with the image of the tourist product and the types of Environmental and cultural experiences that the visitors are seeking. If the Tourism development area becomes saturated, the very attractions that visitors come to experience may be destroyed or degraded and the destination would decline in quality and popularity. Therefore keeping in view the carrying capacity in relation to development there are both negative and positive.<sup>2</sup>

#### NEGATIVE ASPECTS ON ENVIRONMENT

The negative impact of development can be assessed by using the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) model. This model is prepared as an evaluation matrix. Summarizing and synthesizing the impacts so that a comprehensive evaluation can be made of all the factor in the Environment. A sample of evaluation matrix has been drafted and produced as diagram.

The negative impacts as a consequence of development of the wildlife areas as tourist attractions can be:

- ✓ The first and the foremost requirement of accessibility to the wild life region is the construction of roads. Such construction may necessitate the clearing up of the forests resulting in destruction of trees.

- ✓ By exploring “Wildlife Tourism” which means bringing more tourists with private vehicles. This requires banning more private vehicles. Such drastic steps have to be taken because the smallest car, a maruti 800, occupies an area of 24 square feet. Allowing cars without restrictions means cutting into mountain-sides to build roads where the cars can be driven or parked. This can have grave ecological consequences because Himalayas are the mightiest landmass on earth. Cutting into the mountains may result in soil erosion or make the land susceptible to natural hazards like earthquakes, landslides etc.
- ✓ The situation changes often dramatically, when the number of visitors or facilities increases beyond a certain threshold. As soon as human and vehicular traffic gain access, pollution begins in terms of dissemination of smoke and pollutants through the exhaust of vehicles, as a result of decaying garbage and human waste strewn by visitors.
- ✓ Noise pollution would set in due to uncontrolled vehicular and human, traffic. It would definitely disturb not only the wildlife but the peaceful life of local residents.
- ✓ To attract tourists, ancillary amenities would require the creation of entertainment, public utilities, shopping facilities etc. This would have a direct impact on land use pattern due to increase in pressure on land in terms of construction of camp sites, picnic spots and shops, which would result in the reduction of vegetation and encroachment on agricultural land.
- ✓ Effect on vegetation would be in terms of direct trampling<sup>^</sup> by vehicles and man himself. There can be change in the ratio of species due to the collection of flowers, plants and fungi by the tourists.
- ✓ Chopping of trees, poles etc., would lead to vegetation depletion. Forest fires can result, easily destroying the vegetation cover in minutes, due to negligence of tourists who may forget to extinguish the fires lit for their fun or who may throw burning cigarettes.
- ✓ Demand for wildlife souvenirs (Furs skin ivory, ornaments, horns and nails) may result in boom of curia trade and would encourage capturing, poaching and killing of wildlife for trade purposes to satisfy the whims of tourists.

Presently the Wildlife Tourism of the State lies unexplored and development of Tourism in these areas would certainly pose a threat to the State’s Green Environment and peaceful remote areas but it can be undoubtedly used with intelligence and taste leading to conservation of the same and exposure to the tourists of the fact that the State abounds in floral and faunal wealth and it can become an instrument for beautification and improvement of the Environment.<sup>3</sup>

#### POSSIBLE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Practically the Tourism potential areas are close to many villages. The inhabitants of these villages are not exposed to any kind of diverse economic opportunities which can improve their living conditions other than traditional sources of living; they have been thriving on till now. Development of the Tourism Industry certainly brings along with it a plethora of economic opportunities. They can be exploited to the

benefit of local residents in monetary terms and in increasing their standard of living. These impacts in Himachal can be stated as:

#### POSITIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

✓ Employment would be generated through the following means construction activities, *i.e.* roads, bus depots, bus stands, accommodation units, public convenience, cultural centers, picnic spots etc.

These services can employ local people in accommodation, restaurants, wayside fast food points, retail shops, curies transport, repair shops, porters and guides etc.

Indirect employment can be provided to people in the souvenir manufacturing industries, repairs, ancillary activities like clearing of land, furniture building, use of agricultural produce for catering to the food 'requirements of various units.

With the emergence of possibility of employment, would arise generation of income. As more people would be gainfully employed, it will raise the standard of living of the local inhabitants.<sup>14</sup>

✓ Tourist expenditure in these areas if developed, would lead on to have a multiplier effect on the economy. Economic gains would help to diversify the local economic structure. As money is earned, savings begin and these would be invested further in other activities e.g. people can start their own retail outlets, wayside tea stalls, fast food centers, souvenir products and can sell their agricultural, horticultural products like fruits and vegetables directly to tourists, handloom and handicrafts shops etc.

In this manner the people who are yet hooked to agricultural activities for mere subsistence would be exposed to a new business and commercial mentality which can give them much more returns.

✓ If professional staff has to be deployed in these areas, then the creation of basic amenities for them and their families would be necessitated. Schools, hospitals, public works, banks etc., would have to be established. This would require education of the local inhabitants about the ways to avail the best from these institutions. Higher the education of the children, greater would be the awareness created amongst them. The awareness would provide an impetus to the people, to engage in creative activities.

✓ Development of local handlooms handicrafts and small scale industries can be another direct effect on the economy. Other economic activities that might come up, includes

- Animal Husbandry
- Agro-based industries
- Fisheries
- Minerals

✓ Resource exploitation may lead to discovery of rich resources and their proper utilization can bring economic benefits to the society.

✓ There can be direct benefits to the Government through the collection of taxes such as Room Tax, Excise Tax, License fee, Fee for Tourism facilities like Entry and Parking Permit to places of Tourist interest etc.

Inspite of these positive impacts there can be some negative impacts also; stated below:

Seasonal unemployment is a major hunch in Himachal as it has problem of all seasonal destinations. Employment for porters, retailers would be only seasonal. So there is a need to make Himachal all year round tourist destination.

Another problem may arise in the face of pressure on the resources due to increasing tourist traffic. This may result in undue exploitation and wastage of resources of the area.

Encroachment on cultivable, agricultural and horticultural land by ambitious projects may leave the local farmers with nothing to survive on.

But the overall picture helps us to conclude that the positive economic benefits can exceed the negative effects if Tourism Management is properly utilized.

#### SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACT

The socio-cultural impacts are of great significance as they deal with modifications in human behaviour, interactions, relationships, values and changes in the culture of a community.

Education is one of the aspects which tourists bring along with them to benefit the locals. Renewal of Cultural Pride: Appreciation by the tourists and others visiting these areas yet unexposed to tourism may result in the local residents taking pride in their culture.<sup>15</sup>

To provide tourist altercations, conservation of Cultural Heritage to provide tourist's attractions is another feature of socio-cultural impacts. The maintenance of museums, theatres and other cultural facilities for which Himachal is famous in India may gain importance amongst the local residents.

Revitalization of traditional arts, handicrafts, dance, music, drama, dress and certain aspects of traditional life styles is another positive impact that can be seen. The Himachal Art painting, music, dressing styles can easily be revitalized and marketed not only providing employment but generating pride in local skills. This can directly lead to the utilization of time and creative thinking. This value thinking can enable them to stop indulgence in idle- destructive or criminal behaviour.

These above mentioned factors have pointed out that the socio cultural impacts in the state would positively help in building up cross-cultural linkages. Though the positive effects stand justified, the adverse effects of such socio-cultural intermingling cannot be neglected.<sup>16</sup>

#### ADVERSE SOCIO-CULTURAL IMPACTS

Cultural shock is the first adverse impact which may occur if a bus loaded with tourists, descends on traditional places, those of holy significance or cultural value. There may be loss of cultural character, self-respect and overall social identity, generating inferiority complex because of submergence of the local society by the outside cultural patterns of seemingly more affluent and successful tourists.

Dissatisfaction, resentment irritation and xenophobia result when local people feel that prices are rising and there is shortage of water due to pressure on resources available for them.

Demonstration effect from tourists of different, cultural and socio-economic background on residents, especially on young people may occur. It includes resident's imitating the behaviour gastronomy, dress and life style pattern of tourists, without having the affordability to do so and without understanding their cultural basis. This may even create conflicts between different generations in a community. Anti-Social, immoral and criminal activities may also be possible because those areas, which still remain under developed and poor, may enter into prostitution trade, indulge in gambling, vandalism, drug abuse and degradation of moral values.

The Socio-cultural impact would be directly proportional to the number of tourists encroaching on the carrying capacity and the possibility of resentment arising for the tourists, too, would come up with the passage of time and number.

A model has been developed by a researcher to highlight the socio-cultural impact on the host Population in accordance with:

- ✓ Stage of Tourism Development
- ✓ Type of Tourism-Organic Forced
- ✓ Types of Tourists-Elite off beat etc.
- ✓ Type and extent of impact. For a diagram of the model see it at the end of this chapter.

Analysis of the above four components reveals a theoretically consistent pattern of interrelationships between the variables. It can be figured out that Tourism development and its impacts do not inevitably occur as shown. All resort communities need not essentially - evolve through all the stages indicated or experience equal impacts. However, there is strong positive correlation between these variables and research findings.

Thus, after examining in detail the kind of impacts which may result on development of tourist attractions in Himachal, the inference is that both positive and negative impacts on Environment, economy, society and culture would occur side by side. After weighing the pros and cons, it can be concluded that if proper pre impact assessment studies are conducted before development to judge feasibility, such form of Tourism can definitely become a valuable asset for the state if developed in a controlled manner. So Tourism Corporation and Tourism Department would need to- carry out impact assessment studies before development aimed at reducing risk of unexpected changes and undesirable consequences changes are to be carried out. To satisfy tourist expectations within the constraints of a destination Environment would require both physical and human management strategies.

Herman Kahn, the well known futurologist shudders too think that rapidly expanding Tourism is "next only to atomic power in its potential for\* environmental- destruction".<sup>17</sup>

So in the end it is concluded that the Himachal Government is pursuing a Tourism policy without much concern for the Environment and long-term social issues. There is a growing concern to develop Tourism on softer lines, one which is ecologically friendly and socially responsive.

Tourism in Himachal Pradesh is spreading in a disorderly fashion. Because of large scale construction of hotels and summer apartments the rural landscape have transformed significantly, which has not only disturbed the ecological balance but also the land use. Deodar and pine trees which once dominated the skyline have given way to large colossal

concrete structures which are dangerously perched on the hills, raising doubts about their stability. Some hill sides have been defaced beyond recognition and today, amidst fertile fields, rise heavily fenced "Summer Homes", which dwarf the humble rural dwellings.

The local farming Community is gradually losing land to Tourism. Entrepreneurs alone are beneficiaries from such Tourism Development Gigantic Tourism projects needs to be awaited because they do not guarantee a thriving Tourism industry and they put unnecessary pressure on the environment and lead to the large scale impact of goods and service often from outside the region.

So in the end a positive outcome of Tourism development in the State has been the increase in income and employment opportunities. Till 1990, the Tourism Sector employed about 4.6% of the total work force directly. In 1994, it was revealed that this industry provided direct employment to more than 25 thousand persons and indirect employment to about 62 thousand people approximately 20% of total work force of the State. However, like any other industry. Tourism has a flip side of the coin too. Besides capitalizing on the Tourism resources, the State Government will have to tackle vigorously some problematic features of the Tourism Industry. Signs of misuse are already evident at many places and this need to be rectified and avoided in future development.

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