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ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM ON RESIDENTS OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR STATE

SUTINDER SINGH RESEARCH SCHOLAR VIKRAM UNIVERSITY UJJAIN

ABSTRACT

Tourism is one of the most important sectors in the world economy. It is now considered as an efficient tool for promoting economic growth of the host country. Tourism is fastest and growing industry in the India, which is effect on the economy of destination. Tourism alters the economic structure of a destination. Tourists spend their money on a wide variety of goods and services and related tourism products. Tourism is encouraged to the local people due to ability to generate employment in hotels, resorts, transport, etc. Also change their lifestyle. The present paper is based on primary data which is collected through intensive field work and assess the impacts of tourism on the residents of the state. Chi square method is used for the measuring the attitude of the residents for better tourism development in Jammu and Kashmir. It is found that, the overall impact is positive as increases total income of residents, generate employment and tax revenue and infrastructural facilities need to be improved.

KEYWORDS

Co- integration, Economy, Tourism, development, infrastructure, employment, Tourism, Jammu and Kashmir.

INTRODUCTION

The concept of tourism has been defined in many ways and there is no agreement on the definition of tourism (Amelung, er al., 1999, p.4). According to United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), tourism is defined as "an activity of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited" (UNWTO, 2001). It refers to all activities of visitors, including both "tourists" (overnight visitors) and "same day visitors".

Vaughan *et al.*, 2000) that completes the total economic impact of tourism. As repercussion effects of tourism are being realized by nations, it is now believed to stimulate the economic progress of developing economies and its importance in gaining widespread recognition. Tourism industry has become one of the most vital sectors, drivers and/or engines of growth and development for economy because of its competitive advantages and potentiality. The tourism industry not only creates considerable high multiplier effects but also enhances the inter-sectorial linkages in the economy. Through inter-sectorial linkages, impact of international tourist expenditure affects almost all sectors of an economy beside direct tourism related sectors. (Mazumder *et al*, 2011).

Tourism is the leading source of foreign exchange in at least one of three developing countries that have made it a priority sector, and this holds especially for small islands (see Durbarry (2004) In fact, there are several examples of small islands that depend heavily on international tourism revenue and where the tourism sector has received strong support from the government (see Louca, 2006).

PROFILE OF THE AREA

The total population of Jammu and Kashmir is 12,548,926 (Census of India, 2011) with a sex ratio of 883 females per 1000 males. The work participation rate is quite low i.e. 37 percent indicating high dependent population in the state. About three-fourth population of the state live in rural area. Among the working population, cultivators and agriculture laborers' comprise about 50 percent of the total working population. The main crops in the state are saffron, almond and walnut. Natural honey too, is a produce that is available in bulk in the state.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of the present study is based on a sound research design which is broadly consisted of primary as well as secondary data collection, followed by data processing and report writing. The primary data is collected from the following stakeholders in the tourism set-up:

- Officials / Staff of hotels.
- Visiting tourists in the vicinity both domestic and foreign.
- Local inhabitants / Shopkeepers / Tourist Guides.
- Artisans, Craftsmen.
- Travel Agents / Tour Operators.
- Other related agencies and persons.

The secondary data is collected from various sources, primarily

Jammu and Kashmir Tourism Development Corporation.

- Tourist Reception Centers.
- Directorate of Tourism, Govt. of J & K.
- State Directorate of Economics and Statistics.
- Census Reports.

OBJECTIVES

- To examine the facilities provided by the tourists.
- To assess the economic impact on local people of the state.
- To analysis the income effect of tourism on the state's economy.

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM

Copper and et al (1999), the economic impact of tourism on a host economy is generally positive but also carries with it some negative aspects. The literature is biased towards the positive aspects of economic impacts. It is important to establish how significant tourism spending is to an economy because this allows policy makers and planners to determine dependency and to develop strategies for the future.

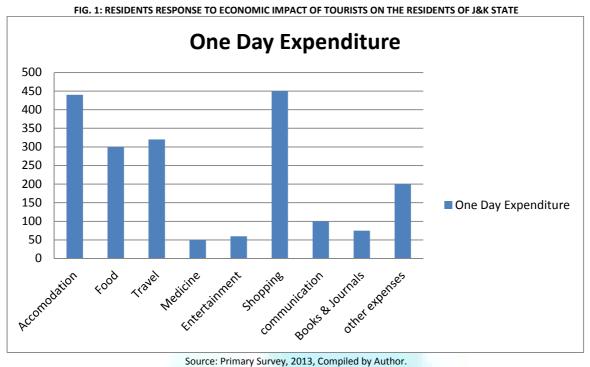
PERCEPTION OF RESIDENTS RESPONSE TO ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM AT ELEPHANTA CAVES

Tourism has major effect on the local economy of destination. Tourism brings foreign earnings, tax revenue and income of local people, which is beneficial for the development of tourism in the state. The economic impacts of tourism more is known about the economic benefits of tourism than the associated costs. Tourism can create employment opportunities, earn foreign exchange, produce return on investment for emerging economics, bring technology and improve standard of living. Tourism can also help to generate jobs and increase revenue to local people and shopping facilities. Tourism can cause major effect on economic of destination area for price of land to rise rapidly.

ECONOMIC IMPACT INDICATORS

Increase the income of residents, opportunity for shopping, generates jobs, demand for female labour, increase in general prices of goods and services increased the number of hotels / resorts and commercial view of local people are the few indicators that indicate the economic impact of tourists.

The objective of tourism development programme is to encourage tourists to spend more money in the region. Figure 1 gives details of expenditure of tourists.



Source: Primary Survey, 2013, Compiled by Author.

It is observed that majority of young tourists like to spend on accommodation during their tour of rupees 440/day. 300 rupees were spent on food related item per day by a tourist in an average. 320 rupees were also spent by a tourist on travel per day. Daily spending of tourist on medicine is rupees 50/day. Again they spent Rs. 60 daily in their tour on entertainment, and 450 rupees were spent on shopping by a tourist in the Jammu and Kashmir State, rupees 100 and 75 were spent on communication and book related items respectively, rest 200 rupees/day were also spent on other items in their tour in the region.

TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS

H₀₌ there is no difference between tourists expenditures in tourist/non tourist season

 $H_{1=}$ there is difference between tourists expenditures in tourist/non tourist season

X² ⁼ ∑ (O-E) ²/E

X²⁻77.84

d.f. ⁼ n-1= 9-1=8

From the table value $X_8^2(0.05) = 15.507$

Since the calculated value of (chi square) x² is greater than the tabulated value of x² at 5% level of significance for (8) d.f. So we reject our null hypothesis at 5% level of significance and conclude that there is difference between tourist expenditures in tourist/non tourist season.

CONCLUSION

The research study finds that tourism is playing an important role in the economic development of Jammu and Kashmir. Development of tourism is now accepted everywhere in the world as one of the major means of developing the economy of the country. Studies and researches, both academic and practical, on tourism development and its manifold impacts have now become highly significant in developed as well as developing countries. This is particularly true in the case of Jammu and Kashmir, where industrial development is low. The only sector in the present situation where Kashmir can rely upon with confidence is the development of tourism. Indeed Kashmir has created a brand name in tourism "Paradise on the earth". The significant impact of tourism on Jammu and Kashmir economy justifies the necessity of Public intervention aimed, on one hand, at promoting and increasing tourism demand and on the other hand, providing and fostering the development of tourism supply.

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