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Environmental and Socio-Economic Impacts of International Tourism and Exploring the Multidimensional Aspects for Future Development : (A Case Study of Chittorgarh District in Rajasthan)

Sushma Loth¹, Sangita Panchal²

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Maharana Pratap Govt. College, Chittorgarh (Raj.), India¹

Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, S.P.C. Govt. College, Ajmer (Raj.), India²

ABSTRACT: International tourism is tourism that crosses national borders. Globalisation has made tourism a popular global leisure activity. Tourism industry in India is on a great boom at the moment. Tourism is a leading industry particularly in a state like Rajasthan, where tourism is the major source of the earning for masses. The paper uses Chittorgarh as an example to illustrate the multifarious impacts of tourism. This paper covers all major aspects relating to the tourism industry in Rajasthan and throws light on impacts of tourism and represents statistics of domestic and foreign tourist arrival in Chittorgarh. The impact that was elaborated in this study was "economic, socio-cultural, and environmental" aspects. It has an immense potential for creating employment and sustainable human development. Rajasthan is among the top ten tourist destinations in India. This paper examines the trends of foreign tourists' arrival in Rajasthan and Chittorgarh on the basis of data collected from various reports and government officials of Rajasthan. Paper further focuses on the various impacts of international tourism such as environment, socio-economic. It also discusses many problems faced by the tourism industry in Chittorgarh. Lastly it suggests measures to make Chittorgarh the number one tourist destination in Rajasthan. It is identified that it depends upon several factors such as better infrastructure, economic accommodation and safe environment. This chapter will deal with those impacts which may be good or bad.

KEYWORDS: Tourism, environmental impact, Infrastructure, Rajasthan. Economic Development

I. INTRODUCTION

Tourism is an integral part of human life. Tourism is a movement of people from one place to another for recreation, enjoyment, religious, natural, culture and social attributes. The role of tourism as a major contributor to the economy is explored. Tourism has the highest multiplier effect in creating prosperity in the development of communication, transportation, accommodation and other consumer related services and gives benefits of development of trade and transport, increase in standard of living, development of local handicrafts and even builds the image of the nation. India is a big country with a diversified geographical, economic and social structure, tourism really provides them the opportunity to come together and hence enabling the people to learn and share their experiences of life. Generally, this interaction yields good results in the form of social, economic and cultural impacts. The social impacts come in the form of unity in diversity and as an opportunity to know one another's way of life, which could be very interesting for both tourists and the local community. Tourism has a great impact on the destination economy by providing various business and infrastructure development.

Besides all the positive advantages of tourism, we should not forget that tourism also brings some disbalance of cultural traditions of the local community. These cultural disadvantages come in various forms such as loss of original traditions and cultures, misinterpretation of foreign culture, modernization of local traditions etc. India has tremendous potential to become a major global tourist destination and the Indian tourism industry is exploiting this potential to the hilt. A state like Rajasthan has all the ingredients and elements to become a model state for tourism in the country. It is a sad fact for Rajasthan that the vehicle of culture, heritage and tradition is still being denied national

recognition. This article covers all major aspects relating to the tourism industry in India and Rajasthan and throws light on various impacts of international tourism as well challenges and opportunities faced by the tourism industry in Rajasthan and represents statistics of domestic and foreign tourist arrival in Rajasthan and Chittorgarh.

With increasing rate of tourist arrival, the overall tourism activities have an effective impact (positive and negative) on almost every aspect of modern life including social, cultural, economic, etc. Tourism impacts are generally positive, as we can see some of the direct positive effects of tourism which are responsible for economic growth and development of the destination. Tourism creates the opportunity for diverse communities to come close and share/experience the culture and traditions of one another. Tourism essentially increases group and individual Sedition to the above tourism also has many other hidden positive effects e.g., indirect economic benefits of tourism, induced benefits, infrastructure development etc. Like everything, tourism also has some of the bad and ugly faces. Some of the main disadvantages (negative impacts) of tourism can be negative cultural impacts, modernization of traditions, inflation etc.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Reviews of the related literature provides the researchers new frontiers of knowledges and serves as a source of inspiration. It deepens the insight of the researchers to the extent that the design of the study could become more appropriate and purposeful.

Many scholars have written books dealing with their views with different issues of tourism. **Romila Chawla (2003)** wrote an important book entitled "*Tourism in the 21st century*". She emphasized on important features on the tourism industry, its contribution to the national integration and creation of harmonious social and cultural environment and also suggests the promotion of arts, crafts and culture and brings about prosperity and sustainable development. She gives aspects and challenges of tourism in the Twenty first century.

Dr. Kulwant Singh Pathania and Dr. Arun Kumar (2008), "*Tourism in India*" focused on all aspects related to the tourism and outdoor recreations as resources based have been useful for the development of any tourist destination in India. **Dr. M.M. Khan(2009)**, wrote an important book series on "*Encyclopaedia of Tourism*". He emphasized on the theoretical framework of tourism development such as fundamental aspects, salient features and various organisation. He gives the role of tourism organisation at the international and national levels for the development and promotion of tourism industry, all phenomenon has been explained in Vol-I.

GDP DISTRIBUTION

Tourism is an important sector of the economy and contributes significantly in the country's GDP as well as Foreign Exchange Earnings (FEE). The tourism industry is the largest service industry in India, contributing 8.6% to the national GDP.

Sector wise Distribution of National GDP	
Sectors	% of National GDP
Agriculture	17%
Industry	28.2%
Other services	46.2%
Tourism	8.6%

The tourism industry of Rajasthan, considered to be one of the major contributors to the state's GDP, has shown positive growth year-on-year. According to the Rajasthan Tourism Department, the state attracted more than 5.19 crore tourists in 2018. Heritage properties, star category and budget hotels, and motels have sprung up across the state to cater to the tourist influx.

OBJECTIVES

- To study the trend of foreign tourist arrival in Rajasthan and Chittorgarh.
- To identify and analyse the environment impacts.

- To identify and analyse the various socio-economic impacts.
- To give recommendations for future prospects for research on the basis of the study conducted.

This study would be quite useful in formulating and implementing policies to promote sustainable international tourism in Chittorgarh.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The present research study is based on primary data, field visit and secondary sources of data. The secondary data was collected from state government tourism department (RTDC) and from other various official and non-official agencies, besides several books, booklets, magazines, journals and travels literature, newspapers, articles from published documents. The primary data was collected by way of field survey conducted personally. The collected data was compiled, tabulated and analysed with suitable statistical tools to convey required information.

RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS

1. The number of domestic and foreign tourists coming to Chittorgarh increased.
2. The development of international tourism has resulted in environmental degradation in Chittorgarh.

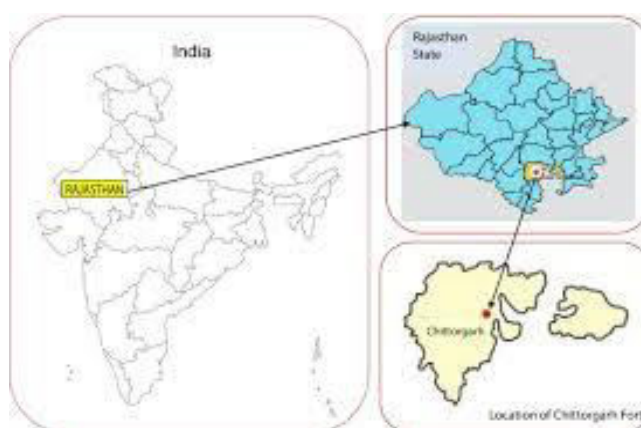
RESEARCH AREA

Chittorgarh district owns unique topography, history, culture, customs and relatively peaceful environment. The colors, the proud history, its vibrant culture and tradition is what charms tourists from all over the world. So, it can be rightly said that the district stands apart due to its uniqueness.

Chittorgarh is located at 24.88°N and 74.63°E. It has an average elevation of 394 metres (1292 ft). Chittorgarh is located in the southern part of the state of Rajasthan, in the north western part of India. It is located beside a high hill near the Gambhiri River. Chittorgarh is located between 23° 32' and 25° 13' north latitudes and between 74° 12' and 75° 49' east longitudes in the south eastern part of Rajasthan state. The district encompasses 350.8 square km (3.17 per cent of the Rajasthan State) area of land.

It is bounded by Neemuch, Mandasaur and Ratlam districts of Madhya Pradesh to the East and Udaipur - Rajsamand to the West, Bhilwara to the North and Pratapgarh to the South. The prominent rivers that flow through the districts are Gambhiri and Berach.

The study investigated a case study in Chittorgarh district shown in Fig. I.



HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

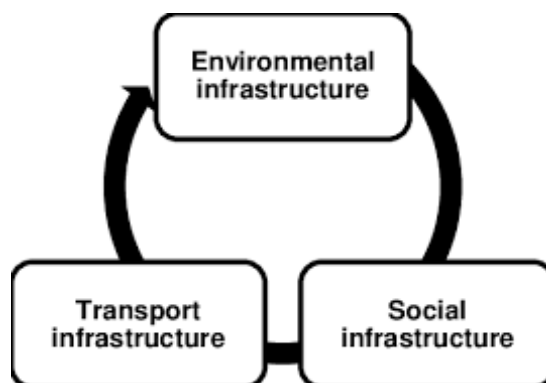
Chittorgarh is home to the Chittorgarh fort, the largest fort in India and Asia, Chittor also has been a land of worship for Meera, it is also known for Panna Dai. There are many Places of interest-

- Chittorgarh Fort
- Kalika Mata Temple
- Vijay Stambha
- Kirti Stambh
- Rana Kumbha's Palace

- Rani Padmini's Palace

TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

Tourism infrastructure is a collection of the various devices and institutions which become the basic materials and managements for tourism development. It consists of 4 (four) basic elements which are accommodation, facilities, food and beverage facilities and communication facilities. Infrastructure is all facilities that enable the economy process to run as smooth as possible so that it will facilitate people to meet their needs. Hence, it functions as completing the tourism facility so that it can provide service as well as possible.



IMPACT OF TOURISM

Over the last twenty years there has been a growing awareness of the impact tourism has on the environment and societies in which tourism takes place. As mass tourism first developed along the Spanish coast and other areas, there was little concern for the negative impacts that tourism was having on the environment of the area or on the lives of the people living in the area. In recent years, concepts such as eco-tourism, responsible tourism and sustainable tourism have emerged. This is as a result of more research being undertaken into the range of impacts tourism creates and the ways in which these impacts can be managed more carefully. It is usual to classify the positive and negative impacts of tourism under the following headings:

- Economic impacts
- Environmental impacts
- Social impacts
- Cultural impacts

Economic Impacts

Positive

Tourism generates income for a variety of businesses and creates a wide range of employment opportunities. At the global scale, tourism is seen as one of the world's largest and fastest growing industries. This trend has continued throughout the last 50 years. Within the United Kingdom, it is estimated that inbound tourism generates about £19 billion each year. Domestic tourism, including day trips and staying visits, generates over £60 billion per year. In terms of employment, it is estimated that in the United Kingdom 1.4 million jobs are directly related to tourism. As well as generating employment and income, another positive impact of tourism is improvements in infrastructure. These include road and rail improvements, airport development and improvements in utilities, such as water supply and telecommunications. Through these, local people can benefit from the improved facilities which have been provided for tourists.

Negative

Very often a large number of moving visitors into an area pushes up the price of goods and services, meaning that local people have to pay more for food, drinks, transport etc. It is often the case that in popular tourist areas shops provide products for tourists more than they do for local people, meaning that more gift shops and restaurants might open rather than shops providing goods and services for people living in the area. Local people often have to pay additional taxes to help finance additional services which are provided for tourists, such as water treatment facilities and tourist information centres. Some holiday areas have a large number of second homes which are only used for short periods of the year by their owners. This is particularly the case in National Parks and popular coastal areas. The demand

for secondhomes often increase the prices of all housing in the area, making it more difficult for local people, especially young people, to buy their first property. Second home ownership is an example of a negative economic impact of tourism which may be a cause of conflict between local people and tourists. One of the most significant negative economic impacts of tourism is the decline in traditional employment which happens when workers move from industries such as farming, mining and fishing into service jobs in the tourism industry. Another negative impact of tourism is over-dependency. It may be that, as tastes and fashions change, or due to any of a range of external pressures, the number of tourists visiting a particular destination may decrease very suddenly, leading to a loss of employment and businesses closing.

Environmental Impacts

Positive

It is generally the case that tourism has created more negative impacts on the environment than positive impacts. However, increasing awareness of the need for careful environmental management has helped to reduce the negative impacts of tourism in recent years. There are a number of ways in which tourism can have a positive impact on the environment of a destination and in some cases, can be a force for environmental change. Tourism can also help to increase funding for renovation work on historic buildings such as castles, churches and cathedrals in order to ensure that they are preserved for future generations.

Negative

It has to be accepted that many forms of travel and tourism have a damaging impact on the environment. Trains, cars, aircraft and ships all consume fuel and produce emissions that causes atmospheric pollution which, in turn, contributes to climate change. In recent years there has been a growing acceptance of the harmful environmental impacts of travel, and more measures are now being taken to help reduce these impacts. These include making aircraft and vehicles more fuel efficient and experimenting with new types of fuel. In an increasing number of destinations, such as historic cities and National Parks, schemes are being introduced to reduce the amount of pollution and congestion caused by motor vehicles. These include park and ride schemes and a number of ideas to encourage visitors to use public transport. As well as environmental pollution caused by travel and traffic, air pollution also causes damage to buildings and noise pollution is an issue in busy resorts with lots of nightlife. Pollution is also caused by tourists producing litter. This creates an eyesore on the landscape as well as being a threat to the safety of people and animals. Water pollution is another common issue which has been addressed in recent years.

SOCIAL IMPACTS

Positive

One of the major motivating factors for travel is to meet new people and learn about different cultures and tourism often leads to a greater understanding between people living in different societies. Very often, tourists benefit from new and improved facilities which are provided for tourists. This may include attractions and catering facilities – there is nothing stopping people living in a tourist destination from enjoying themselves in restaurants or visiting attractions built mainly for tourist use. Tourists will often gain a greater respect for the lifestyle of the people living in the area they are visiting. Increased tourism also leads to local communities improving their skills and improving their social status. In well-managed tourism developments local people are encouraged to undertake education and training to enable them to feel part of the development.

Negative

There are a number of negative social impacts which have been identified. These are mainly related to conflict between the tourists and the host community. These may result from the behaviour of people living in the area who resent the tourists taking over their community. However, it is often more common that anti-social behaviour from groups of tourists will be the cause of the conflict. Negative social impacts also include increased crime in the area, such as prostitution, illegal gambling and drug dealing and robbery. Very often, this is not related to local people, but occurs as a result of criminal gangs moving into the area to exploit tourists and sometimes local people as well. In some destinations, local people have been obliged to move away from where they have traditionally lived to make way for tourism development. Another common issue is the matter of seasonal employment, or more realistically unemployment. Many tourist areas are developing strategies to maintain a flow of visitors throughout the year thus reducing the impact of seasonal unemployment. These issues are more common in areas of mass tourism, in larger cities and in certain destinations within the less developed world. There are many destinations where there is little or no conflict between local people and tourists.



III. CONCLUSION

Rajasthan is the state which has huge potential of the economic development due tourism industry. As tourism industry have so many positive impacts like it engendering source of income and employment. It provides prominent resource of foreign exchange earnings and boosting development of infrastructure. Rajasthan has its own unique identity in the country from tourism point of view, including havelia, forts, heritage hotel, colourful fair-festivals, art & culture and handicraft products are attracting tourists. Over the years, there has been an increase in the number of tourists, both domestic and foreign. The state government is implementing many innovative ideas in developing the tourism.

There was the impact of tourism on the economic, socio-cultural, and environment. The impact was both positive and negative.

SUGGESTIONS

- Position tourism as a major engine of economic growth and job creation
- Develop circuits having tourist potential in a planned and prioritized manner
- Promote cultural and heritage value of the country to generate livelihoods in the identified regions
- Create employment through active involvement of local communities
- Develop tourist facilitation services to enhance visitor experience/satisfaction
- Enhance the tourist attractiveness in a sustainable manner by developing world class infrastructure in the circuit/destinations

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