

“The Assessment of Environment impact on pilgrimage destination and Changing Scenario of Globalization with special reference to Dehu in Maharashtra”

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ABSTRACT:

Tourism is a global phenomenon, which is fastest rising industry. In modern world tourism activity, become an important economic activity for any country. Pilgrimage tourism or Religious tourism is very old type of tourism which also known as a faith or spiritual tourism. In pilgrim tourism people devotionally travel individually or in groups for missionary or leisure (fellowship) purposes. The location of majority pilgrimage centers normally associated with nature and some rituals related to pilgrimage affect the natural environment. Environment plays a crucial role in development of tourism, its lives and develops to promote from environment. In one hand quality of natural and man-made environment support and create the representation of the tourism destination and in other hand tourism development made positive as well as negative impact on environment and host people.

In the modern period, positive factors of Globalization are responsible to increasing the number of pilgrims. The characteristics of modern Pilgrimage tourist are changing due to globalization and there development like pattern of visits, visitors with their rituals, package type, hospitality and transport facilities. Sometimes some natural calamities like flood, earthquake and also there are some other treats like terrorism, cyber crime, epidemics, impact on tourism

Key Words: *Pilgrimages, Religious, Rituals, Impact, Environment, Globalization,*

Introduction

Tourism is a worldwide phenomenon, which is today, 's fastest rising industry. In modern world tourism activity, become a major economic significance for any country. "The word "tourism" is derived from the world 'tour' meaning a 'Journey' in which one returns to the starting point" (Parbati Nandi and Prmangshu, 1999). Tourism is the temporary movement of people for the short-term period from his destinations to outside the place where they usually live and work and includes the activities during the stay at the destination as well as all facilities and services specially created to their needs.

Pilgrimage tourism or Religious tourism is very old type of tourism which also known as a faith or spiritual tourism. The word pilgrimage has begin from the Latin word 'Peregrines' which means a 'wonderer' or 'stranger'. "Its chief purpose is to gather religious merits (Punya) and free from own sins (Pap) as well as to involve the blessings of the particular deity enshrined in the religious place". (Sinha Amita, 1999). In Pilgrimage tourism, for to attain 'salvation' or 'moksha' people devotionally travel individually or in groups for missionary, or leisure (fellowship) purposes. A person who makes journey spirituality called a pilgrim.

The environment is a powerful resource for tourism as it plays important role in attracting tourist to any destination and tourism related activities leave their mark on the environment. The term environment generally refers for natural or physical features of landscape. The term environment included both the natural or physical as well as cultural or man-made components.

Pilgrimage and the environment

The location of majority pilgrimage centers normally associated with nature. The location of the pilgrimage normally on the bank of flowing water or river, the confluence of river, the top of the mountain, interior of forest or in the natural caves. In the pilgrimage centre some of the rituals affect the natural environment. The rituals like pradakshina or clockwise circumambulation of a holy place or tirthas are affecting the surrounding nature. The holy bath of Holy River or lake or kunda, panda-dan at holy place, the rituals of antyestividhi after death person on the bank of Holy River or place causes to pollute the water body. The celebration of mahotsava or annual festival causes indirectly to affect the surrounding environment of the pilgrim destination.

The environment in pilgrimage destination is influenced by the arrival of pilgrims in many ways. Increasing tourism activity put the pressure on basic services, accumulation of massive quantities of residuals (wastes), high levels of pollution and clearing of land and forests in many places for creating temporary accommodation facilities and amenities for pilgrims. Due to increasing tourism activity biodegradable waste like plastic and glass cups, polythene bags etc, water pollution due to inadequate sewerage facilities, deforestation due to harvesting of firewood, and destruction of flora and fauna observed in pilgrimage destination.

Environmental Impact on Pilgrim Destination

Environment plays a crucial role in the development of tourism, its lives and develops to promote from environment. Tourism development focuses on the protection and sustainable improvement of the environment. In one hand quality of natural and man-made environment support and create the representation of the tourism destination and in other hand tourism development made positive as well as negative impact on environment and host people. Tourism and environment both is the good friend of each other. If the number of visitors and its level of consumption is more than the environments ability then adverse impact takes on environment. If protect the environment through raise awareness to tourist, local people and planners its helps to increasing Tourism.

Tourism causes positive as well negative impacts on host population on the pilgrim destination.

- Major Negative Physical impacts on tourist destination
 - Environmental pollution
 - Depletion of natural resource
 - Land erosion
 - Loss of natural habitats
 - Traffic congestion
 - Garbage trails
- Major positive Physical impact on tourist destination
 - Kept free from varies type industrial pollution
 - It helps to maintaining ecological balance
 - Historical sites are preserved and restored
 - Protection of endangered species in National parks and wildlife sanctuaries
 - Protection of Forest areas
 - Natural attractions help create awareness about the environment and educate the people

The proportion of Negative environmental impact on pilgrimage destination observed more than the Positive impact. The following environmental issues recorded in most of the pilgrimage destination.

1. Use of agricultural or forest land for non-agriculture purpose
2. Pollution of holy rivers, lakes, Ponds or other water bodies
3. Disposal of untreated sewage
4. Lack of sanitation facilities
5. Random dumping of solid waste
6. Lack of pure and adequate drinking water facilities
7. Absence of health and sanitation facilities increases risk of spreading water borne diseases
8. Other problems such as noise pollution, dust pollution, miss behavior of tourist, overcrowding, Traffic congestion etc

Study Area:-

Dehu is the well-known pilgrim centre in Maharashtra. Dehu is a census town in Pune district. It is located on the banks of the River Indrayani in Haveli taluka, 35 km away from Pune. It lies in 18°43'00"North latitude and 73°46'00"East longitude. It has an average elevation of 594 metres (1948 feet) from mean sea level.

Dehu is the home and soul of Sant Tukaram he is well known saint in Maharashtra. Whole his life he worshipped Lord Vitthal. Sant Tukaram known as a saint poet and he remembered for his Abhang and Gatha.

Objectives

1. The objective of the present study is to assess the environmental impact of Religious tourism on host population at Dehu.
2. To assess the impact of globalization on pilgrimage destination.

Methodology and Data

The present research based on both primary and secondary data. To collect primary data intensive field surveys conducted. Questionnaire and interview method is use during field survey. Data regarding physical impacts of Religious tourism measured by the Likert scale and analysis has made. For the analysis of the attitude of community, one hundred fifty one residents selected from Dehu. A set of questionnaire was designed. The response to each question was rated on seven points "Likert Scale" ranging from - 3 to +3 with zero equaling no effect on item resulting from tourism. Likert Scale is a technique for the measurement of attitude a scale giving values for individual reactive attitude. There were seven response alternatives for every attitude statement. These are strongly disagree, moderately disagree, disagree, undecided, agree, moderately agree and strongly agree. The resulting seven point scale could be represented by numbers ranging from -3 to +3 to find the individual overall attitude (-3, -2, -1, 0 +1, +2, +3). This technique gives us not only direction (agree – disagree) but also degree of commitment to that response.

Environmental impact of tourism

The impact of tourism is the result of tourism development in any tourist destination. This result can be either positive or negative. The nature of tourism development at a particular tourist destination causes either positive or negative impact. The positive impact contributes to the welfare of the society, whereas as negative impact contributes to harmful effect on society. The development tourism leaves there impact on changes in environment, economic and socio-culture condition of tourist destination, this changes is like a double-edged sword.

The relationship between environment and tourism is a symbiotic will help sustain tourism for tourist and host. For the future generation it will have to reduce negative impacts on environment as well as host population. The responsibility of conserving the destination lies with the tourist planners. Tourism planners should ensure while promoting tourism they are not destroyed attractive landscapes and delicate environment through over exploitation. Due to tourism development two possible situations happens between environment and tourism. One is

Tourism sustained through live in the harmony with nature, and second is to utilize the natural landscape and environment by encouraging excessive number of visitors and building so many facilities that there is no natural wealth or scenic views left.

To examine the environmental or physical impact on host population of Dehu following ten indicators take into consideration

Environmental Impact Indicators

1. Natural scenery
2. Overcrowding and congestion
3. Pollution
4. Problem in pure and adequate water supply available
5. Quality of garbage disposal
6. Strain on public utility services
7. Road conditions
8. Need of separate place for parking
9. Increased in the numbers of shops
10. Development in Basic Infrastructure

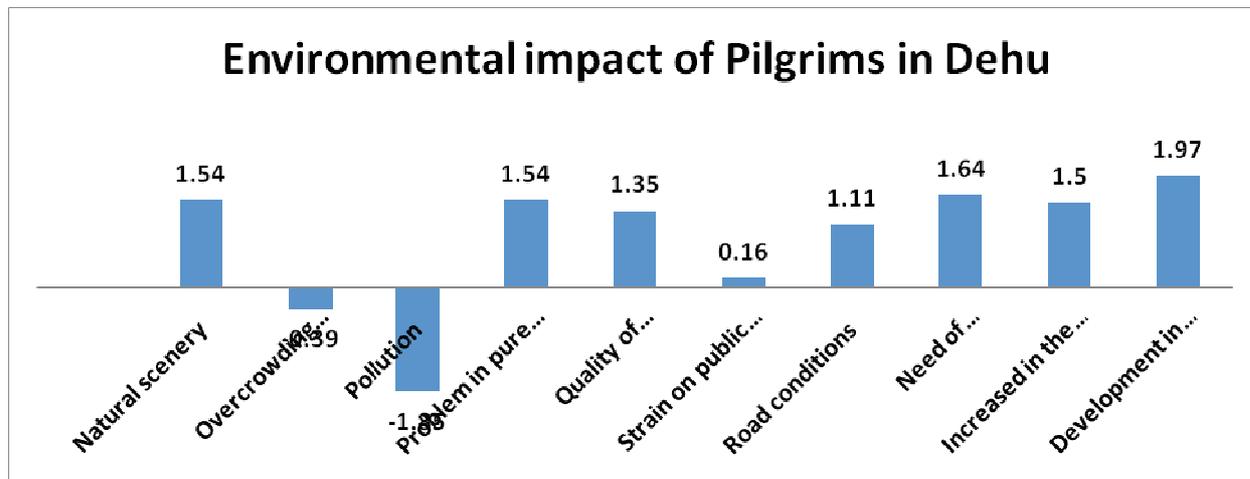
Table 1
Views of local residents on Environmental impact of Pilgrims in Dehu.

Sr.No.	Indicators	Scale of Impact							Total	Mean	SD
		-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3			
1	Natural scenery	7	24	24	2	38	39	17	151	1.54	2.09
2	Overcrowding and congestion	11	27	60	7	8	34	4	151	-0.39	1.68
3	Pollution	45	60	35	2	7	2	0	151	-1.85	1.09
4	Problem in pure and adequate water supply available	2	2	13	4	43	48	39	151	1.54	1.33
5	Quality of garbage disposal	0	6	9	10	36	81	9	151	1.35	1.15
6	Strain on public utility services	1	20	54	8	24	35	9	151	0.16	1.60
7	Road conditions	6	11	11	2	44	57	20	151	1.11	1.58
8	Need of separate place for parking	1	7	6	4	38	52	43	151	1.64	1.33
9	Increased in the numbers of shops	1	13	8	1	31	59	38	151	1.50	1.50
10	Development in Basic Infrastructure	0	1	2	4	41	49	54	151	1.97	0.98

Source-Primary Data

Note: (+) values shows positive effect; (-) values shows negative effect;

Figure: 1



According to this table no 1 and Figure No-1 Positive as well as negative impact felt host communities in Dehu that increasing number of pilgrims at destination. The host communities of Dehu felt that increasing number of pilgrims at destination increasing various type of Pollution (-1.85). As per the host, population due to tourism water pollution of Indryani River and other type of pollution is much increased. Residents are agreeing with statements that Tourism is responsible for Basic Infrastructure Development (+1.97) and Increased in the numbers of shops (+1.50). According to the people of Dehu there is Need of separate place for parking(+1.64). Natural scenery(+1.54) of the Dehu is affected due to the increasing number of pilgrimage. The tourism is responsible for Problem in pure and adequate water supply available (+1.54), Also little beet positive impact seen in Overcrowding and congestion (-0.39) and Strain on public utility services (+0.16). As per some host people of Dehu the problems of Overcrowding and congestion as well as Strain on public utility services has increased due to tourism.

Host population of Dehu felt that increasing number of pilgrims at destination creates various problems like Pollution, garbage disposal, Natural scenery, pure and adequate water supply, and Road conditions, Congestion and Overcrowding and Strain on public services. As per the host population of Dehu tourism is responsible for Basic Infrastructure Development and increase in number of shops. As per the host population of Dehu there is need to separate parking place.

Globalization and its impact on the pilgrimagetourism

Globalization is the movement of goods, ideas, values, and people around the world. In the modern world as like the other occupation tourism activity, affect by Globalization. The impact of Globalization affect the positively as well as negatively on pilgrimage tourism. In the modern period, positive factors of Globalization are responsible to increasing the number of pilgrims.

1. The characteristics of modern Pilgrimage tourist are changing due to globalization and there development like pattern of visits, visitors with rituals, package type, hospitality and transport facilities.
2. Globalization impacts on mode of booking of transportation and it helps to know the detail information about the tourist destination to the tourist. Global mobility and ease of travel like modern aircraft, cruise ships, trains, cars and bike rental programs enable people to move quickly in less time
3. Internet banking system provide access to connect and make online money transition anywhere and anytime in the world

4. Awareness of new destination is increasing through way of travel shows, films blogs and other form of communication.
5. World is globally interconnected and every place on the earth is interlinked via internet facility and it helps to hospitality industry to attract the tourist for their available natural living and food facilities from all part of globe and serve them.
6. Today's modern technology in the form of wi-fi, television, smartphones, travel magazines and travel agencies allow people to chose their favorite pilgrim destination with mode of travel and restaurant by single click.
7. Globalization and collaboration of many MNC companies create more jobs in urban areas and foreign countries related to the tourism industries.
8. Globalization make people to come closer and permit to work together but at the same time some natural calamities like flood, earthquake and also there are some other treats like terrorism, cyber crime, swine flu, yellow fever, corona virus etc impact on tourism.

As above stated changing impacts of the globalization has been observed in Dehu Pilgrimage destination.

Conclusions:-

Tourists visiting Dehu have strong Environmental impact on village as far as certain indicator concern but there is negligible impact of some indicator is recorded.

1. The nature of tourism development at a particular tourist destination causes either positive or negative impact.
2. The Positive impact is seen in availability in pure and adequate water supply, Quality of garbage disposal, Development in Basic Infrastructure, Road conditions, Increased in the numbers of shops, Natural scenery, Strain on public utility services.
3. The negative impact is seen in increasing overcrowding and congestion, Pollution, Need of separate place for parking.
4. The positive factors of Globalization are responsible to increasing the number of pilgrims which is responsible to more development in tourism related activity.

Suggestions

Pollution free and environment protected based resource development plan is prime requirement for the Dehu.

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Discourse Of Nationalism And Role Of The Indian State

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ABSTRACT

Among many popular concepts, nationalism has been one of the most attractive and also debated concepts not only among scholars but also common people. Every society has evolved through its unique process and hence, no academic concept can be applied successfully in same sense in different countries. And nationalism is no exception. Being a post-colonial and non-Western country, India demands different connotation of the concept of nationalism. Heterogeneous nature of Indian society puts new challenges to this concept. And rise of Hindutva politics is one of them, challenging the very meaning of nationalism, that is, a feeling of oneness. Support of the right-wing political party to power to this creed of Hindu nationalism has put forth a challenge before the civil society in India, namely, how to contain conservative-capitalist version of nationalism and to preserve and promote plural-inclusive-secular nationalism.

Nationalism has always been quite attractive and hence, contested concept. Nationalism is, crudely, defined as 'a feeling of oneness.' Nationalism is thought to be originated around the times of the French Revolution, when the legitimacy of the concept of popular sovereignty and notion that people should rule, was spreading.³⁷ Also, the discourse of nationalism seeks unity between the nation and the state.³⁸ This creates problem for many countries which are not homogenous, that may include majority of the East European, Asian and African countries. It clearly shows that this 'mainstream' connotation of nationalism is exclusively applicable to the western, capitalist and 'modern' countries only. According to the modernist perspective, attributed to Gellner and B. Anderson, Nationalism is necessary product of modernization.³⁹ But for it neglects identities of people as important components in the process of modernization, this 'mainstream' notion of nationalism is difficult to apply to the non-Western countries.

Nationalism in non-Western Countries

In countries where, due to historical reasons, a centralized state came into existence before the loose mass of tribes or peoples, whom it governed, was transmuted into a well-knit nation living a common economic life and feeling a common a cultural impulse as a result of the unifying power of the capitalist economic development, the problem of nationalities and national minorities did arise in the course of historical development.⁴⁰ Hence, the experience of non-Western countries expresses the need for different interpretation of the concept of 'nationalism'.

³⁷ Entry on Nationalism in Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics by Katharine Adeney.

³⁸ The concept of the nation-state itself underlines the homogeneity between the nation and the state. The homogenous Western nation-states and break-up of the Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union testifies this relation between the nation and the state.

³⁹ Entry on Nationalism in Oxford Concise Dictionary of Politics by Katharine Adeney.

⁴⁰ A. R. Desai in his book Social Background Of Indian Nationalism, 2004, Popular Prakashan.