

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES FACED BY HOST COMMUNITY DUE TO LEISURE TOURISM A STUDY WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT

KURMA SANKARA RAO

Research Scholar

Department of Tourism & Hospitality Management
Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur Dt., Andhra Pradesh
kurmasankararao@gmail.com

Dr. P. PURNA CHANDRA RAO

Associate Professor, HOD, BOS Chairman

Department of Tourism & Hospitality Management
Acharya Nagarjuna University, Guntur Dt., Andhra Pradesh

Abstract

This article investigated the negative and positive effects of tourism activities Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh. The beneficial consequences include the development of jobs, an improvement in economic levels, the promotion of natural space conservation, and the intensive sector of various business opportunities. Negative effects include increased consumption of ground space, water, and energy, damage of landscapes due to the construction of new infrastructure, an increase in the production of disposals (trash), ecosystem disruption, and an increase in the pricing of products and services. Tourism has an impact on the environment of a protected area in any location, whether directly, indirectly, or cumulatively, which may decide the long-term viability of tourism and related activities in the tourist destination. Tourism activities can have a negative impact on the environment in the case of mass tourism, pollution from vehicles or restaurants, and human encroachment as a result of tourism operations. This report revolved around leisure tourism and its effects on the host community's environment. The primary goal of this study is to emphasize the environmental issues that local residents in the chosen study area confront.

Keywords: Leisure tourism, Environmental impacts, Economic improvement, Tourism operations, Pollution, Infrastructure and Host community.

1. Introduction

Tourism has developed over time as the external environment has changed. It began as an environmentally sustainable alternative to a variety of other business pursuits. "It is well acknowledged that the physical environment has a substantial impact on how tourism shapes and is shaped." Aside from its good impacts, the tourism sector has unquestionable negative repercussions on the environment of local locations. The term "environment," according to Rowe et al. (2002)¹, refers to the physical location in which leisure tourism takes place (e.g. mountain ranges, coastal resorts, picturesque villages, historical sites, museums, national parks etc.). Unsustainable planning and uncontrolled constructions wreak havoc on wildlife and the natural environment, as well as pollute the water and air.² That is, faulty road and other infrastructure construction not only degrade the natural environment and fauna, but also distort the view.³ Pollution of the land, air, and water is one of the most major detrimental effects of tourism on the ecosystem.

¹ Rowe, A. Smith, J. D. and Borein, F., (2002). Career award travel and tourism, standard level. Cambridge University Press

² Tatoğlu, A. P. E., Erdal, A. P. F., Özgür, A. P. H., & Azakli, A. P. S. (1998). Resident Perceptions of the Impact of Tourism in a Turkish Resort Town. *Leisure Sciences*, 22(6), 745-755.

³ Farooquee, N. A., Budal, T. K., & Maikhuri, R. K. (2008). Cultural and Social Impact Analysis of Adventure Tourism in Himalayan River Ganga in India. *Indian Journal of Youth Affairs*, 12(2), 104- 111.

Due to a lack of a suitable sewage system and waste management, combined with pressures resulting from visitor presence, the seas or rivers become a source for the disposal of garbage and waste, resulting in the pollution of local indigenous people's seafood and drinkable water, as well as the possibility of skin diseases or other illnesses for both tourists and locals.⁴ The tourism industry's expansion exacerbates environmental problems such as diminishing air quality, increased noise, disruption of quiet and tranquillity, increased water contamination, and biodiversity problems. Destruction of natural areas for the construction of hotels and airports Tourism has a number of negative environmental repercussions, including the construction and networking of channels in natural coverage zones, pollution of the natural environment, and the development of epidemic diseases.

Tourism, on the other hand, can increase public support for ecosystem protection by providing environmental education to visitors and indigenous people in the area. Tourism revenue, such as general spending by tourists, can be invested in environmentally friendly infrastructure in the destination, such as providing proper sewage systems, switching to environmentally friendly cooking fuels, and providing enough financial incentives for the indigenous to protect the natural beauty of the environment rather than destroying it by taking down.

1.1 Positive Impacts of Tourism

Tourism development can be beneficial by raising awareness of environmental issues and values and helping to the protection of these resources; in the meantime, it can help cover the costs of environmental resource protection and maintenance. Tourism expansion and development, if carefully planned and managed, can have beneficial outcomes. Tourism can help to fund the preservation and protection of historical sites and heritages. It has the ability to transform and rehabilitate numerous redundant locations into new tourist attractions, stores, hotels, or touristic facilities. Tourism development can lead to transportation system and infrastructure renovations, which is beneficial to both tourists and locals.⁵ Through economic and environmental benefits, a proper tourism development plan can result in improvements to local infrastructure such as airports, roads, sewage and water systems, and telecommunications.⁶

1.2 Environmental Impacts of Tourism

Tourists are drawn to attractive environments, whether natural or man-made, and the growth of tourism in a community is linked to the surrounding area. The term 'environment' refers to the physical setting in which tourism occurs, such as beach resorts, historic towns, mountain ranges, scenic villages, and culturally significant locations such as museums and national monuments – and which offers the motivation to travel. Tourism will have a beneficial and negative impact on the environment. These impacts are summarized in the following lists:

- Encouraged conservation of features (buildings, animals, countryside);
- Increased investment in the area (may improve infrastructure, access, and facilitate development);
- Increased revenue for facility repair and preservation.

Friends of the Earth and Tourism Concern are two pressure groups that work to preserve the environment and avoid overdevelopment. Many countries' government departments strive for sensitive tourist development that is respectful of local ecosystems and customs. The more a local community is active in the development of tourism in a region, the less harmful tourism can be to that place. The local community, on the other hand, may recognize the benefits of tourism development without fully understanding the negative consequences or costs to the community. Alternatively, they may be preoccupied with environmental risks while overlooking the beneficial elements. Local tourism forums (such as regional tourist boards) can help to highlight the concerns and give a place for discussion and analysis while also promoting public awareness.

⁴ Bauer, I. (2008). The health impact of tourism on local and indigenous populations in resource-poor countries. *Travel medicine and infectious disease*, 6(5), 276-291.

⁵ Godfrey, K., & Clarke, J. (2000). *The Tourism Development Handbook: A Practical Approach to Planning and Marketing*. Cengage Learning EMEA.

⁶ Lickorish, L., & Jenkins. (1997). *An Introduction to Tourism*. Oxford: Reed Educational and professional Publishing Ltd

1.3 Leisure Tourism

As the human race grapples with the expanding complications of balancing professional, social, and personal or family lives, leisure has taken on a new meaning and influence. It is recommended that leisure be integrated into work life as a means of improving overall quality of life. It is widely acknowledged that leisure travel (defined in this research as "people travelling to access and enjoy the natural environment in all of its forms") has a variety of negative effects on both the natural environment and people's happiness and tranquillity. Congestion, loss or damage to biodiversity, noise pollution, visual pollution, carbon emissions, and a reduction in local air quality are only a few of the consequences. Simultaneously, more environmentally sustainable kinds of leisure travel can provide a variety of social and economic advantages.

1.4 Motivation for Leisure Tourism

- In light of the preceding discussion, leisure travel reasons must be comprehended in terms of their meaning and limitations. McIntosh (1977) divided travel motivation into four categories: – Physical motivators, which include rest and relaxation, sports involvement, beach enjoyment, and so on.
- Cultural motivators, such as music, art, and religion, indicate a desire to learn about different countries and cultures.
- Interpersonal motivators include the desire to meet new people, make new friends and relatives, get away from the daily grind, spend time with family or neighbours, and so on.
- Status and prestige motivators, which indicate a desire for attention and recognition

1.5 Environmental Challenges of Leisure Tourism

Tourism, according to existing knowledge, comes with a slew of environmental issues, owing to the influx of people to a tourism destination and the demand placed on the environment by waste generation, various types of pollution, land degradation, and, particularly, overcrowding, which may be beyond the destination's capacity to care for. Tourism, as a major source of revenue and a key impact on a country's economy, is recognized as an important industry in the development of a country and is provided all necessary support. Tourism is viewed as a national priority because it is a primary source of foreign currency earnings and employment generation, and it takes precedence over secondary objectives and broader issues such as preserving natural and cultural heritage, the environment, equitable distribution of economic growth, and so on, resulting in a gap between the benefits and effects of tourism on any location. The tourism business is inextricably linked to the environment, and the natural and man-made environments are critical to tourism. The relationship between tourism and the environment, on the other hand, is complicated. It entails a slew of activities that have the potential to harm the environment. The possibility to earn foreign currency from tourism exports, as well as the jobs provided by the tourism industry, are not easily overlooked by governments in regions where tourism destinations are located.

Tourism's economic value is placed far above its environmental concerns, resulting in a disregard for environmental warnings. Although tourism can be an important instrument for economic growth, it can also have negative consequences on biodiversity and pristine habitats, as well as lead to the misuse of natural resources such as freshwater, forests, and marine life if it is not properly organized. If tourism is to be enjoyed by all stakeholders in a region and its opportunities exploited, it must be studied in conjunction with the environment, taking into account its carrying capacity and overall impact. Recreational tourism relies heavily on the natural environment. With rising urbanization, destinations with significant natural features, scenery, cultural heritage, or biodiversity are becoming increasingly popular tourist destinations in both developed and developing countries. It is therefore imperative for all stakeholders to make efforts to preserve and ennoble the environment for tourism growth.⁷ The environmental repercussions, which are broadly defined and encompass cultural and social factors, are undoubtedly tourism's most serious challenges. The environmental impact of tourism is most obvious in tourist destinations because that is where the tourists congregate, which can result in trash generation, indiscriminate waste disposal, trampling, and so on. A tourism site's biophysical qualities make it susceptible to deterioration from human activity.⁸ Evidently, as tourism grows, resource consumption threatens to become unsustainable, and with a damaged

⁷ Tosun, C. (2001). Challenges of sustainable tourism development in the developing world: The case of Turkey. *Tourism Management*, 22(3), 289–303. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-5177\(00\)00060-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0261-5177(00)00060-1)

⁸Koncul, N. (2008). Environmental Issues and Tourism. *International Journal of Aromatherapy*, 13(2– 3), 63–64. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0962-4562\(03\)00084-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0962-4562(03)00084-5)

physical environment, the destination risks losing its initial allure, increasing the levels of cheaper mass tourism and causing more "nature-based" tourists to relocate to new destinations.

1.6 Host Community and their Perception on Tourism

In leisure tourism, the local community is frequently seen as the most important stakeholder. Tourism at heritage sites must be handled with the support and participation of all stakeholders. Understanding the attitudes of local citizens regarding tourism development is critical to the success and long-term viability of leisure tourism.⁹ Residents' perceptions and attitudes toward tourism's effects are vital for planning, reducing negative social impacts, increasing support for these activities, and in policy considerations for the successful creation, marketing, and operation of existing and future programs and projects. As a result, understanding citizens' attitudes and views about tourism development, as well as how these impressions are formed, would be useful information for the tourism sector, particularly for local tourism development programs.¹⁰ The tourist sector has a wide range of effects on a community's social structure, individual lifestyles, and the economic development of a location. Residents' perspectives of tourist development, including economic, social, cultural, and environmental implications, have been the subject of substantial research in recent years. As the destination advances from one stage of the destination lifecycle to the next, residents' perceptions of consequences and their degree of support tend to shift.

1.7 Measures to Overcome Environmental Impacts and Local Resident Attitudes

Negative attitudes about conservation in communities living within or near protected areas are usually shaped by issues such as protected area restrictions, relocation of local people, threats of protected wild species to domestic animals, and agricultural loss. According to Mbaiwa and Stronza (2011)¹¹, local people's negative attitudes can be changed if there is a balance between natural resource conservation and economic advantages to local communities. Community-Based Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) programs are recognized as successful instruments for giving local communities more authority and power by incorporating them in the decision-making process. The implementation of these programs has a number of advantages, including assisting local residents in developing a better awareness of natural resources and encouraging them to use them in a more sustainable manner. Another important aspect of the CBNRM is the introduction of tourism, which can help to strengthen the local economy. After tourism is introduced, opinions about conservation alter over time and shift to more favourable attitudes. The fundamental reason for this shift was the local community's participation in natural resource management. This provides local residents more authority and ensures that they enjoy economic advantages. Natural resources are thus viewed as local property, and residents attempt to protect them as a source of income rather than allowing them to be regarded as government property, which solely benefits visitors and the government. The revenues that local communities obtain from activities such as tourism influence their attitudes toward conservation projects in the vicinity of national parks.

2. Review of Literature

Adhuze & Fatoke (2019)¹² noted that tourism development has its hurdles, particularly in terms of the environment, because the environment is the foundation for all tourism activities. This study looks at the environmental issues that exist in the Osogbo urban space, which is home to the Osun Osogbo grove, a cultural landscape and a UNESCO world heritage site, as well as how developing the site for tourism outside of the annual festival can help the environment and foster conservation. Environmental concerns are real and palpable within the Osogbo urban space, which is not beneficial for tourism growth, according to research conducted using the quantitative approach of data analysis of questionnaire administration. On the research site, poor waste management processes, deforestation, and encroachment are some of the significant environmental challenges. Based on the findings, the study presents recommendations to aid in the growth of tourism, as well as the protection and preservation of the Yoruba race's common legacy.

⁹Guyer, C. and Pollard, J. (1997). Cruise visitor impressions of the environment of the Shannon-Erne waterways system, *Journal of Environmental Management*, 51,199–215.

¹⁰Chandralal, K. P. L. (2010). Impacts of tourism and community attitude towards tourism: A case study in Sri Lanka, *South Asian Journal of Tourism and Heritage*, 3(2), 41-49

¹¹Mbaiwa, J. E., & Stronza, A. L. (2011). Changes in resident attitudes towards tourism development and conservation in the Okavango Delta, Botswana. *Journal of Environmental Management*, 92(8), 1950-1959.

¹²Olasunmbo Adhuze & Temidayo Fatoke (2019) Tourism development and environmental challenges of Cultural landscape sites within the urban spaces, *international journal of research science & management*, issn: 2349-5197

Huong and Lee (2017)¹³ investigated local residents' opinions and participation in tourism, as well as factors that influence residents' support and participation in tourism In Ba Be National Park of Vietnam. The findings of the study indicate techniques for gaining local support for more tourism activities and engagement in tourism. 267 questionnaires were collected from residents of three hamlets within Ba Be National Park for this study. Hypotheses testing found that rural communities rely on natural resources, and local inhabitants' community attachment has a major impact on their perception of favourable tourism impacts. Furthermore, tourism's social and environmental implications are viewed as critical variables in determining local citizens' support for and participation in tourism.

Shahgerdi et al (2016)¹⁴ explained that the tourism industry is strongly reliant on the environment. Furthermore, environmentalists have underlined the importance of sustainable tourism development that is environmentally friendly and avoids ecological damage, indicating the relevance of this phenomenon as well as its fragility. This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach and content analysis as a method, using ecological modernization theory and sustainability as theoretical frameworks. It also reviews tourist literature and focuses on the bilateral impacts of tourism and the environment on each other. The implementation of these themes not only encourages tourism stakeholders to be more mindful of the potential consequences of their actions, but it also raises public awareness of these consequences and the importance of the environment.

3. Objectives of the Study

- To understand the various environmental challenges faced by host community at a tourist destination
- To examine the environmental impacts created by leisure tourism on host community of Visakhapatnam district
- To provide suitable recommendations for addressing environmental issues occurring due to leisure tourism.

4. Statement of the Problem

One may agree that tourism, whether on a large or small scale, has a significant impact on the host community. Factors such as infrastructure breakdown, solid waste removal and other such activities are various forms of environmental contamination produced tourists arriving at the tourist destination. This has adversely affected the host community, costing a lot of money. These elements have in the past worked as a stumbling block to the host community's achievement of the intended goal, making the local government think twice before permitting tourists from outside. The primary goal of this study is to investigate if leisure tourism affects the environment of the destination. Using local residents of Visakhapatnam district as respondents, an empirical study was carried out to demonstrate the environmental challenges faced by host community due to leisure tourism.

5. Scope and Significance of the Study

Although people have always travelled for leisure or relaxation, there have also been those who have travelled for entertainment and business purposes, such as to a meeting, conference, workshop, event, etc., and these people or tourists have contributed to the growth of the destinations they have visited, either directly or indirectly, and have helped to develop the tourism industry as a whole. It is critical to investigate the factors that influence perceptions of tourism's impacts, as well as those that influence satisfaction with specific life conditions; recognition of the roles of tourism's environmental impact; the material, community, emotional, and health and safety well-being domains, as well as recommendation for tourism development, without harming the environment. Hence, this study determines the major factors of tourism industry that affects the environment and also provides significant suggestions for the betterment of the host community as well as the tourism industry.

6. Research Methodology

The research methodology section discusses and supports the research technique used by the lead investigator for this study. The methods used in this study were chosen based on their capacity to help

¹³Pham Minh Huong & Ju-Hee Lee (2017) Finding important factors affecting local residents' support for tourism development in Ba Be National Park, Vietnam, Forest Science and Technology Volume 13, 2017 - Issue 3

¹⁴ Amin Shahgerdi, Hamed Rezapouraghdam, Azar Ghaedi, Sedigheh Safshekan (2016) The Tourism Environment Nexus; Challenges and Opportunities, Journal of Sustainable Development Studies, ISSN 2201-4268, Volume 9, Number 1, 2016, 17-33

achieve the study's goal and objectives. The major and secondary methods that were chosen are discussed, as well as the sampling methods that were used. The techniques utilized to analyze the data are described below, as well as the ethical considerations addressed by the investigation.

Research design: The current research is both descriptive and empirical.

Target population: Local individuals living in and around the designated tourism attraction (Yarada Beach, Kailasagiri, Borra Caves, Gangavaram Beach, and Indira Gandhi Zoological Park) in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, make up the sample population for this study.

Sampling method: The respondents were chosen from the study area (a selected tourism destination in Vishakhapatnam) utilizing a non-probability convenience selection method for data collection in the form of population interviews.

Sample Size: The total number of people who took part in this study was 189.

Data collection: This study used both primary and secondary data in its data collecting.

Primary data: A survey was done among local residents in the targeted tourism destination in Vishakhapatnam using a self-structured questionnaire prepared by the researcher to obtain primary data. On a 5-point Likert Scale, 1 represents Strongly Disagree and 5 represents Strongly Agree; respondents were asked to score various items. The questionnaire asked about the environmental difficulties that the host community faces as a result of leisure tourism.

Secondary data: Secondary data was gathered from journals, publications, reports, books, newspapers, periodicals, working papers, research papers, and websites, amongst other sources. All of the ethical norms of study were followed by the researcher, including the following ethics: Each question was repeated to ensure that they understood it in their own language, and the interview was held in a pleasant and peaceful environment with adequate privacy.

7. Data Analysis

The data was entered and analyzed using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) version 20 and the AMOS version 20. The following statistical tools were used to test the hypotheses: SEM and one-way ANOVA.

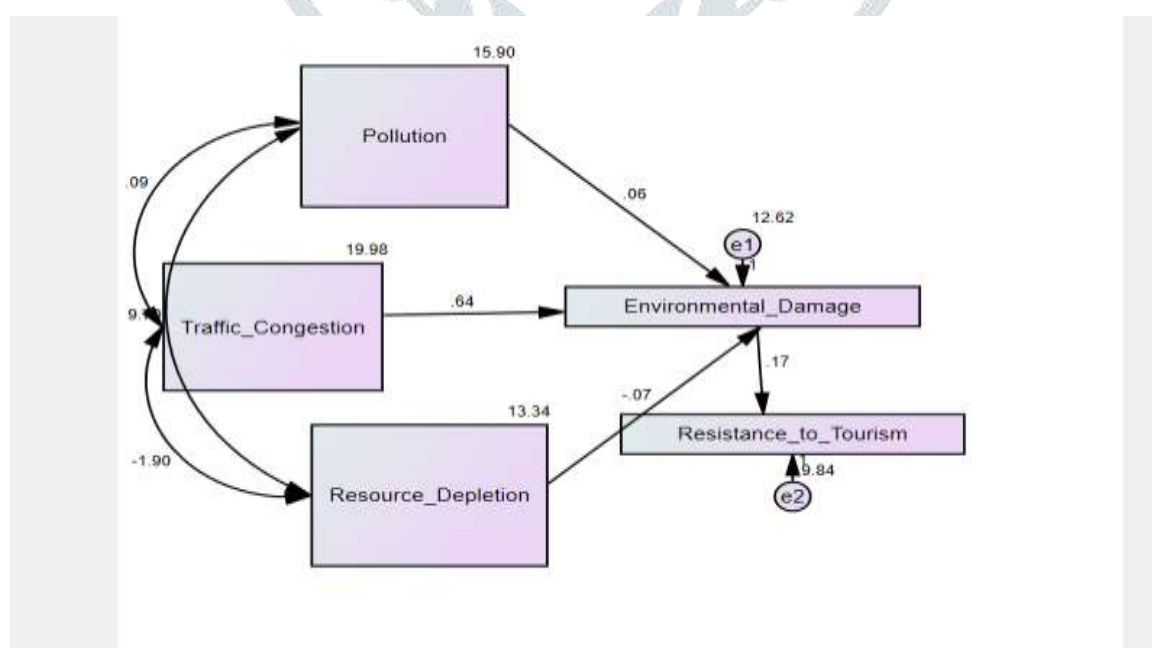
SEM Path Analysis (Structural Equation Modelling)

Variables used

Independent Variables: Pollution, Traffic Congestion and Resource Depletion

Dependent Variables: Environmental Damage and Resistance to Tourism

Figure – 1: SEM Analysis



Source – Amos Output

Table - 1
Testing of Hypothesis

| Hypothesis | Relationship | SE | P-Value | Result |
|-----------------|--|-------|---------|-------------|
| H ₀₁ | Pollution has no influence on Environmental Damage | 0.041 | 0.000 | Significant |
| H ₀₂ | Traffic Congestion has no influence on Environmental Damage | 0.059 | 0.000 | Significant |
| H ₀₃ | Resource Depletion has no influence on Environmental Damage | 0.033 | 0.000 | Significant |
| H ₀₄ | Environmental Damage has no influence on Resistance to tourism | 0.050 | 0.000 | Significant |

Significant at 1% Level

Model Fit: Table – 2

| S.No | Model Fit Indices | Calculated Value | Acceptable Threshold Levels |
|------|--|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Goodness of Fit Index (GFI) | 0.995 | 0 - 1 |
| 2. | Comparative Fit Index (CFI) | 0.999 | 0 - 1 |
| 3. | Adjusted Goodness of Fit Index (AGFI) | 0.976 | 0 - 1 |
| 5. | Tucker Lewis Index | 0.932 | 0 - 1 |
| 6. | Root Mean Squared Error of Approximation (RMSEA) | 0.012 | 0.05 or lesser |

Discussion:

The overall fit, absolute goodness of fit (GFI = 0.995), comparative fit indices (CFI=0.999), adjusted goodness of fit (AGFI = 976) Tucker Lewis index (TLI=0.932), and root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA= 0.012) were all evaluated in the research. According to the literature, GFI, CFI, and TLI metrics should be higher than 0.90, and RMSEA should be less than 0.05. As a result, the aforementioned number indicates that the model is good fit.

Table – 3: One Way ANOVA between Age and Study Variables

H₀₅ – There is no significant difference between Age of the respondents with respect to Pollution, Traffic Congestion, Resource Depletion, Environmental Damage and Resistance to tourism.

| Variables | F-Value | Significant | Inference |
|------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| Pollution | 0.597 | 0.618 | Accepted |
| Traffic Congestion | 2.883 | 0.042 | Rejected |
| Resource Depletion | 2.907 | 0.030 | Rejected |
| Environmental Damage | 3.817 | 0.011 | Rejected |
| Resistance to tourism | 1.477 | 0.222 | Accepted |

Significant@5%level

Discussion

The above table shows that the significant value for traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage is less than 5%, the null hypothesis for age factor is rejected. As a result, the age of the respondents varies significantly in terms of traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage. For pollution and resistance to tourism, the null hypothesis is accepted.

Table – 4: One Way ANOVA between Education and Study Variables

H₀₆ – There is no significant difference between education of the respondents with respect to Pollution, Traffic Congestion, Resource Depletion, Environmental Damage and Resistance to tourism.

| Variables | F-Value | Significant | Inference |
|------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|
| Pollution | 1.555 | 0.302 | Accepted |
| Traffic Congestion | 3.178 | 0.025 | Rejected |
| Resource Depletion | 2.544 | 0.048 | Rejected |
| Environmental Damage | 4.931 | 0.003 | Rejected |
| Resistance to tourism | 1.186 | 0.316 | Accepted |

Significant@5%level

Discussion

The table – 4 portrays that the null hypothesis for the education component is rejected since the significant value for traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage is less than 5%. As a result, the responders' education has a major impact on traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage. For Pollution and Resistance to tourism, the null hypothesis is accepted.

Findings

- SEM analysis depicts that the measures representing the overall fit, absolute goodness of fit (GFI = 0.995) Comparative fit indices (CFI=0.999), Adjusted Goodness of Fit (AGFI = 976) Tucker Lewis index (TLI=0.932) and root mean square error of approximation (RMSEA= 0.012). Based on literature it was found that, GFI, CFI and TLI measures can be greater than 0.90, and RMSEA can be less than 0.05 preferably. Hence the above value shows the model is good fit.
- One –way ANOVA between age and study variables shows that significant value for traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage is less than 5%, the null hypothesis for age factor is rejected. As a result, the age of the respondents varies significantly in terms of traffic

congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage. For pollution and resistance to tourism, the null hypothesis is accepted.

- One –way ANOVA between education and study variables shows that the null hypothesis for the education component is rejected since the significant value for traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage is less than 5%. As a result, the responders' education has a major impact on traffic congestion, resource depletion, and environmental damage. For Pollution and Resistance to tourism, the null hypothesis is accepted.

8. Suggestions

- More sustainable leisure travel can provide a variety of social and economic benefits to host communities. As a result, it is recommended that expanding sustainable leisure travel be prioritized in policy development and budget allocations.
- Limits should be set after a thorough examination of the maximum sustainable tourist capacity. Regulatory measures can assist balance negative consequences; for example, limitations on the number of tourist activities and visitor mobility within protected areas can reduce impacts on the environment and help sustain the site's integrity and vitality. Such constraints can also help to mitigate the detrimental effects on resources.
- It has been suggested that a good collaboration be formed between local authorities, national park authorities, transportation companies, and local businesses in order to promote and deliver sustainable travel programs for accessing the natural environment. This has been seen as a success factor.
- A valiant and vigorous effort is needed to properly educate the host community on the ideas and practices of sustainable waste management. The federation's federal and state ministries of health should use mass media to educate individuals about the benefits of this practice.
- More sweepers and scavengers must be arranged at every tourist destination in order to maintain a clean and tidy tourist spot. Also, the tourists who are causing any kind of damage to the environment such as littering, polluting the natural resource, dumping plastics need to be charged heavily.

9. Conclusion

Tourism in Visakhapatnam must be developed in such a way that it entertains and accommodates plenty of visitors while being minimally invasive or less detrimental to the environment, as well as sustaining and supporting native cultures in the areas in which it operates. The tourism business in Andhra Pradesh is expanding, and it has enormous potential for creating jobs and earning substantial sums of foreign cash, in addition to contributing to the country's overall economic and social growth. However, the findings of this study clearly revealed that leisure tourism causes negative impact on the environment. Therefore, Leisure tourism should be fostered so that tourism in the study region contributes to the preservation and sustainability of the diversity of natural and cultural settings. Furthermore, because tourism is a multifaceted activity and primarily a service industry, it is critical for both the central and state governments, as well as those in the private sector and actively involved in voluntary work, to become active partners in the effort to achieve sustainable growth in the tourism industry. An urgent sustainable approach to nature and conservation is required to maintain the existence of such natural assets, with public participation serving as a cornerstone in the process of restoring cultural sites and historic areas.

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