

## Negative Impacts of Tourism on the Environment.

Dr.M.Rama \*

### Abstract

*Tourism is the temporary, short-term movement of people to destinations outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at each destination. The quality of the environment, both natural and man-made, is essential to tourism. Any kind of development requires some interference with the nature. Overdevelopment comes at the cost of nature. It involves many activities that can have adverse environmental effects. Many of these impacts are linked with the construction of general infrastructure such as roads and airports, and of tourism facilities, including resorts, hotels, restaurants, shops, golf courses and marinas. There may be damage to the natural flora and fauna. With more people in the area, more natural resources are required which leads to depletion of natural resources. Waste disposal problems crop up and without proper measures to handle this problem it may worsen the situation. Water pollution in rivers, lakes, and the sea may result from recreational and tourist transportation, untreated sewage from kitchens and bathrooms of island resorts may cause adverse effect on the aquatic ecosystem. Traveling by rail, air, and road results to air pollution that damages the environment and result to photochemical pollution, acid rain, and global warming. Litter is probably the most important emission of tourism to the soil and certainly the most visible. Wildlife loses their natural habitats wherever tourist facilities and roads are constructed. The tourism industry overuses the water resources for the development leads to the degradation of water supplies and water shortages. Tourism can create great pressure on local resources like energy, food, and other raw materials that may already be in short supply. Greater extraction and transport of these resources exacerbates the physical impacts associated with their exploitation.*

*Key words: Tourism- Environmental pollution-Water pollution -Air pollution -Soil pollution – Problem to Wild life - Water shortage.*

### Introduction:

Traveling is one of the favorite activities of people around the world. Travelling is the best way of having new experiences, to enlighten about different cultures ,has great academic and scholastic values. It also helps us in appreciating nature in all it's glory. The chirping sounds of the birds, the songs of the rivers, the howling of animals we might just miss it all if it was not for travel. Travelling can therefore be an extremely enchanting and enriching experience that may help improve the quality of our life.

### Impact of tourism on environment:

The quality of the environment, both natural and man-made, is essential to tourism. However, the relationship of tourism with the environment is complex. It involves many activities that can have adverse environmental effects.

### **Impact on water bodies:**

Water, and especially fresh water, is one of the most critical natural resources. The tourism industry generally overuses water resources for hotels, swimming pools, golf courses and personal use of water by tourists. This can result in water shortages and degradation of water supplies, as well as generating a greater volume of waste water.

### **Impact on land resources:**

Important land resources include minerals, fossil fuels, fertile soil, forests, wetland and wildlife. Increased construction of tourism and recreational facilities has increased pressure on these resources and on scenic landscapes. Direct impact on natural resources, both renewable and non-renewable, in the provision of tourist facilities can be caused by the use of land for accommodation and other infrastructure provision, and the use of building materials.

Forests often suffer negative impacts of tourism in the form of deforestation caused by fuel wood collection and land clearing.

### **Causing air pollution:**

Transport by air, road, and rail is continuously increasing in response to the rising number of tourists and their greater mobility. Transport emissions and emissions from energy production and use are linked to acid rain, global warming and photochemical pollution. Air pollution from tourist transportation has impacts on global level, especially from carbon dioxide emissions related to transportation energy use. And it can contribute to severe local air pollution.

### **Littering:**

In areas with high concentrations of tourist activities and appealing natural attractions, waste disposal is a serious problem and improper disposal can be a major despoiler of the natural environment, rivers, scenic areas, and roadsides.

In mountain areas, trekking tourists generate a great deal of waste. Tourists on expedition leave behind their garbage, oxygen cylinders and even camping equipment.

### **Sewage problem:**

Construction of hotels, recreation and other facilities often leads to increased sewage pollution. Wastewater pollutes seas and lakes surrounding tourist attractions, damaging the flora and fauna. Sewage runoff causes serious damage to coral reefs because it contains lots of nutrients and it stimulates the growth of algae, which cover the filter-feeding corals, hindering their ability to survive. Changes in salinity and transparency can have wide-ranging impacts on coastal environments. And sewage pollution can threaten the health of humans and animals.