



"A Critique on Surge in Tourism Post-Pandemic and Over Tourism"

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ABSTRACT

The world is facing unprecedented calamity in the form of Covid-19, especially the travel and tourism industry. All the governments imposed restrictions on movement of travellers in or out of the country. It took a huge toll on travel and tourism industry. Since vaccines are governments slowly easing the restrictions on all front, and travellers reach out to all sort of tourism places, more than that the place can handle. This particular phenomenon called as over tourism. A critical review on the particular subject is order of the day.

Keywords: COVID-19, Post pandemic, Tourism Industry trend, surge in tourism.

Introduction

COVID-19 is a contagious disease which started in China, and it spread all over the world in a year. Countries faced severity due to the pandemic. It further spread due to lack of monitoring in the months to come. Lack of monitoring in lieu with travellers revealed the most vulnerable area of the tourism and hospitality industry.

The pandemic stimulated the governments to take cautious measures like limited transport by air, ground and water and imposing lockdowns, identifying hotspot and isolation centres in cities. These restrictions affected the industry and economy overall and some sectors which interact with people being affected more than the others.

After the vaccination drive is dispersed all over the world throughout the world all government ceased the restrictions on travel in order to rejuvenate its economy. People who were shut themselves in their homes and worked from their homes jumped on this opportunity and travelled to all sort of places.

This led to the surge in tourism all over the world and people visit the tourist spots in mass which is way beyond the capacity of that particular place in terms of hotel, bars, restaurant and stays which is known as 'over tourism'. It is the fact that this over tourism is polluting and harming the landscapes, beaches, putting the archaeological and historical infrastructure under huge strain. It is a complex issue that is often oversimplified looked.



Graffiti in Barcelona. © Claudio Milano, Author provided

Sudden surge of tourists have led to major traffic snarls. (Photo: India Today)

The fact of the story is most destinations are unprepared to cope with overtourism. Though tourism brings lot of jobs, investments and economic benefits, it has his own demerits as well. The people who live in this destination now despise tourists, termed "tourist-phobia".

Handling with overtourism is a top priority just its saving this generation of destination but its sustainable to preserve it for future also. Dealing the tourists flow of seems daunting task. Yet some cities brings down the over tourism by imposing new or revised taxation, checking with hotels to bring down the crowd, increasing the flights ticket fares, and limitations in number of tourists enter the spot (quota). Fines and penalties imposed on defaulters. The main focus is on attracting lesser and high-spending and low impact tourists, rather than big groups. Overtourism is a collective responsibility. Administrators and Tourism destination managers must recognize that there are limits for any place to growth. Listing the welfare of local inhabitants above the needs of the tourists is important.

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