Victoria University of Bangladesh

Final Assessment

(Course Title: Environmental issues in Tourism Industry)

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Submitted to:

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Ans to the question no – 1

Environmental issues such as climate change, pollution, and natural disasters can greatly impact the tourism industry. Negative impacts include decreased tourist numbers, decreased air travel, and damaged infrastructure and attractions. On the other hand, efforts to mitigate environmental damage and promote sustainability can lead to increased tourism, especially among environmentally conscious tourists. Ultimately, addressing environmental issues is crucial for the long-term viability of the tourism industry

Here are more details for each of the ten points:

1. **Decreased tourist numbers:**

Environmental issues such as natural disasters, pollution, and climate change can reduce the appeal of a destination and lead to a decline in tourist numbers. For example, the impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise and increased frequency of natural disasters, can make destinations less accessible or less desirable to tourists.

2.Damaged infrastructure and attractions:

Natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires, can damage or destroy tourist attractions, hotels, and infrastructure. This can lead to decreased tourism and decreased revenue for local economies. For example, the destruction of iconic tourist sites, such as the Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris, can negatively impact the tourism industry.

3.Decreased air travel:

Climate change and environmental concerns can lead to decreased demand for air travel, as travelers may opt for alternative modes of transportation. This can have a negative impact on the tourism industry, particularly for destinations that rely on air travel for accessibility.

4. Economic impacts:

Environmental issues can have significant economic impacts on the tourism industry, including decreased revenue, job losses, and decreased investment in tourism infrastructure. For example, the impacts of natural disasters can disrupt tourism activity and lead to a decline in local economies that rely on tourism.

5. Community impacts:

Tourism development can lead to gentrification and displacement of local residents, while conservation efforts can protect cultural heritage and traditional ways of life. For example, tourism development can drive up property values and displace low-income residents, while conservation efforts can preserve local cultures and traditional ways of life for future generations.

6.Increased demand for sustainable tourism:

Efforts to promote sustainability and reduce environmental harm can attract environmentally conscious tourists and increase demand for sustainable tourism. For example, destinations that invest in renewable energy, reduce waste, and conserve natural resources can attract eco-conscious tourists and increase their reputation for sustainability.

7. Reputation management:

Destinations and the tourism industry must manage their reputation in the face of environmental issues and take action to mitigate harm and promote sustainability. For example, destinations must respond to natural disasters and pollution incidents to maintain their reputation and ensure the long-term viability of the tourism industry.

8.Government regulations:

Governments may be pressured to take action on climate change and other environmental issues and implement regulations that affect the tourism industry. For example, governments may implement carbon taxes, regulate the use of plastic, or impose restrictions on air travel to address environmental issues.

9. Industry innovation:

The tourism industry must innovate and adopt sustainable practices to reduce their environmental impact and address environmental issues. For example, the tourism industry can adopt renewable energy, reduce waste, and implement eco-friendly practices to reduce their environmental footprint.

10.Consumer preferences:

Environmental issues can impact consumer preferences and lead to changes in tourist behavior, such as a preference for eco-friendly and sustainable destinations. For example, travelers may opt for destinations that are committed to sustainability and reducing their environmental impact, and avoid destinations that are associated with environmental degradation or natural disasters.

Ans to the question no- 2

The environmental factors that affected tourism-

Here are eight environmental factors that affect tourism, with more details:

1.Climate: Climate is a major factor in determining a destination's popularity, as tourists often seek warm or temperate climates for leisure activities. For example, destinations with sunny beaches and warm waters are often highly sought after by tourists seeking a tropical getaway. On the other hand, destinations with extreme weather conditions, such as harsh winters or frequent hurricanes, can negatively impact the tourism industry.

2.Topography: The topography of a destination, including the availability of mountainous or coastal regions, can also impact tourism. Destinations with unique

geographical features, such as scenic mountains or picturesque beaches, often offer unique recreational opportunities that attract tourists.

3.Natural disasters: Natural disasters, such as hurricanes, earthquakes, or wildfires, can have a significant impact on tourism, either negatively affecting the destination or drawing tourists to witness the aftermath. For example, after a natural disaster, the tourism industry may suffer as tourists avoid the affected region, but it may also see an increase in tourists who are interested in witnessing the recovery efforts.

4. Biodiversity and ecosystems: The availability of wildlife, natural habitats, and ecosystems play an important role in attracting tourists, especially those interested in ecotourism. Destinations with rich biodiversity and well-preserved ecosystems are highly sought after by nature lovers and bird-watchers.

5. Cultural and religious beliefs: Cultural and religious beliefs can also impact tourism, as some destinations may be seen as more attractive or accessible to certain groups. For example, destinations with strong cultural heritage or religious significance may attract tourists seeking to learn about the local culture or history.

6.Social norms and attitudes: Social norms and attitudes towards tourism can also affect the industry, for example, if local communities do not support tourism development, it may negatively impact the destination's appeal. In such cases, it's important for the tourism industry to engage with local communities and understand their perspectives to promote sustainable tourism practices.

7. Political stability: Political stability is an important factor in determining the appeal of a destination, as tourists are often hesitant to visit destinations with ongoing conflicts or political unrest. Destinations that are perceived as politically stable and safe are more likely to attract tourists, while those that are unstable or prone to violence may deter tourists.

8. Environmental degradation: Tourism can also have an impact on the environment, leading to issues such as overcrowding, degradation of natural resources, and pollution. To minimize these negative effects, it's important for the tourism industry and governments to work together to promote sustainable tourism practices that preserve the natural and cultural heritage of destinations.

In conclusion, these eight environmental factors can impact tourism in different ways, and it's important for the tourism industry and governments to understand and address these factors to promote sustainable tourism practices.

Ans to the question no – 3

The biggest threat of tourism to the environment-

The biggest threat of tourism to the environment is over-tourism and unsustainable tourism practices, which can lead to overcrowding, increased pollution, strain on local resources and infrastructure, and degradation of natural and cultural heritage sites. Additionally, the emissions from transportation and travel, as well as the energy consumption from tourism facilities, contribute to climate change and its impacts on the environment.

Overcrowding: Over-tourism in popular destinations can result in overcrowding, putting stress on local resources and infrastructure, and altering the character of a place. It also affects the experience of both visitors and local residents, and can lead to degradation of the environment and cultural heritage sites.

Pollution: An increase in tourist numbers often leads to an increase in waste, sewage, and other forms of pollution, which can harm local ecosystems and wildlife. The discharge of oil and other chemicals from boats and ships, as well as the use of plastic and other single-use items, also contribute to marine pollution.

Strain on resources: Tourism often places a strain on local resources, such as water, energy, and food supplies, which can result in depletion and degradation of these resources.

Climate change: The emissions from transportation and travel, as well as the energy consumption from tourism facilities, contribute significantly to climate change, which has widespread environmental impacts, such as sea-level rise, more frequent and severe weather events, and shifts in the distribution of plant and animal species.

Damage to natural and cultural sites: Unsustainable tourism practices can result in damage to natural and cultural heritage sites, such as destruction of ecosystems and habitats, erosion, and the degradation of archaeological sites.

Therefore, it is essential to promote sustainable tourism practices that minimize the negative impacts of tourism on the environment and local communities.

Ans to the question no - 5

Outbound tourism-

Outbound tourism refers to people traveling from their country of residence to another country for leisure, business, or other purposes. Outbound tourism encompasses a wide range of activities and services. This can include transportation to and from the destination country, as well as within the country itself. Air travel is the most common form of transportation for outbound tourists, but other options may include trains, buses, ships, and rental cars. Accommodation options for outbound tourists are similarly diverse and can include hotels, resorts, hostels, and short-term rentals such as apartments or vacation homes.

Food and beverage is another important aspect of outbound tourism, with travelers often looking to try new and exotic cuisines. Tourist attractions are also a major component of outbound tourism, and can include cultural, historical, and natural sites, as well as theme parks, museums, and other recreational activities.

The growth of outbound tourism has had a significant Impact on the global economy, with the industry generating significant revenue for both the tourism industry and local economies in destination countries. This has led to the development of various supporting industries, such as transportation and hospitality, as well as the creation of jobs in these sectors.

It is also worth noting that outbound tourism can have both positive and negative impacts on destination countries, with overcrowding and overtourism being some of the negative effects that can result from excessive tourism. As such, responsible

tourism practices and sustainable tourism development have become increasingly important in the outbound tourism industry.

An example of outbound tourism would be a family from the United States traveling to Europe for a two-week holiday. The family would book their flights, reserve a hotel room, and plan out their itinerary for visiting various tourist attractions, such as museums, historical sites, and cultural events. During their trip, they may also enjoy local cuisine and engage in recreational activities, such as shopping, sightseeing, and outdoor sports.

This example demonstrates how outbound tourism can encompass a wide range of activities and services, from transportation and accommodation to food and beverage and cultural attractions. The family's decision to travel abroad also has a significant impact on the global economy, generating revenue for the tourism industry and contributing to the development of local economies in the destination country.

Ans to the question no – 6

The types of environment in tourism-

Here is the more in-depth information about each type of environment:

Natural environments: Natural environments are areas with little human intervention, such as beaches, mountains, forests, lakes, and national parks. These destinations offer opportunities for outdoor activities, such as hiking, camping, bird watching, fishing, and water sports. Natural environments also attract tourists interested in eco-tourism and sustainability, as they offer the chance to experience and appreciate the beauty and diversity of nature.

Cultural environments: Cultural environments are destinations that showcase the rich history, heritage, and traditions of a place, such as historical cities, museums, cultural festivals, and religious sites. Cultural environments offer the opportunity to learn about the history, architecture, and art of a place, and to experience local customs, traditions, and way of life. Tourists interested in culture, history, and the arts are attracted to cultural environments.

Adventure environments: Adventure environments are destinations that offer high-thrill experiences, such as theme parks, adventure sports, and wildlife safaris. These destinations are popular among tourists seeking excitement and thrills, as they offer activities such as white-water rafting, bungee jumping, zip-lining, and wildlife viewing. Adventure environments are also popular among tourists interested in physical activity and outdoor recreation.

Urban environments: Urban environments are cities and towns that offer a mix of modern and cultural attractions, such as shopping districts, nightlife, skyscrapers, and historical landmarks. These destinations are popular among tourists looking for a fast-paced city experience, as they offer a variety of dining, shopping, and entertainment options. Urban environments are also popular among tourists interested in architecture, design, and urban planning.

Rural environments: Rural environments refer to destinations in rural areas, such as farm stays, countryside villages, and wineries. These destinations offer a more relaxed, laid-back experience and a chance to connect with nature and local communities. Rural environments are popular among tourists seeking a slower pace of life, and those interested in eco-tourism and sustainability.

Recreational environments: Recreational environments are destinations that offer opportunities for relaxation, recreation, and rejuvenation, such as health spas, golf courses, and ski resorts. These destinations are popular among tourists looking to escape the hustle and bustle of daily life and rejuvenate. Recreational

environments offer activities such as spa treatments, golf, skiing, and snowboarding.

Marine environments: Marine environments refer to destinations along the coast or on islands, such as coastal towns, island destinations, and water sports activities. These destinations offer opportunities for beach activities, water sports, and marine wildlife watching. Marine environments are popular among tourists seeking sun, sand, and sea, and those interested in marine life and ocean-based recreation.

In conclusion, each type of environment in tourism offers unique experiences and attractions that cater to different preferences and interests of tourists. Understanding the different types of environments can help travel and tourism businesses to better understand their target market and create experiences that cater to their needs and desires.