

# Effects of Environmental Changes on Ecotourism in Darjeeling

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## Abstract

Tourism plays a major revenue in India. Darjeeling the queen of the hill, is one among those and attracts national and international tourists. Tourists may be different types, it depends on the individual, some may be preferred to identify new culture, to feel and enjoy nature, to get more knowledge about that place, etc. Ecotourism is a nature-based to preserve nature and appreciate the cultural environment. It protects the natural area and providing sustainable development to the local people. In this paper, the researcher focused on the effects of environmental changes and how it affects ecotourism in Darjeeling. The majority of the mother of nature was hunted by cutting the trees and animals.

**Keynotes:** Tourism, Sustainable development, and Ecotourism.

## Introduction

The concept of environmentally sustainable tourism includes comprehensively handling climate change and preserving natural resources for future generations while adequately meeting the needs of the current population. (New Zealand tourism guide, 2017) Tourism plays a major revenue in India. Darjeeling the queen of the hill, is one among those and attracts national and international tourists. Tourists may be different types, it depends on the individual, some may be preferred for to identify new culture, to feel and enjoy nature, to get more knowledge about that place etc. Ecotourism is a nature-based to preserve nature and appreciate the cultural environment. It protects the natural area and providing sustainable development to the local people.

Ecotourists provide additional knowledge about the ecosystem and biological factors that affect the tourist sport in conservation efforts, such as repopulating endangered species and reforestation.

## Research Methodology

This research design was descriptive. The researcher using a non-probability convenience sampling technique is employed for the selection of 110 samples from the tourist who visited Darjeeling. The collected data is analyzed and interpreted properly. Statistical tools used to analyze the data like a simple percentage, Cross tabulation and chi-square test with the help of the IBM SPSS 20

**Table 1: Gender**

Gender	Frequency	Percent
Male	62	56.4
Female	48	43.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Inference:** The majority of 56.4 percentages of the respondents are male and 43.6 percent of the respondent is female.

**Table 2: Age**

Age	Frequency	Percent
Upto 20	20	18.2
21 to 40	15	13.6
41 to 60	24	21.8
61 and above	51	46.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Inference:** The majority of the respondents belong to 61 and above age.

**Table 3: Qualification**

Qualification	Frequency	Percent
Less Than 10 Std	16	14.5
HSC	23	20.9
UG	28	25.5
PG	29	26.4
Professional	14	12.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Inference:** The majority of 26.4 percent of the respondents are having post-graduation degrees.

**Table 4: How many Trips so far you traveled**

How many Trips so far you traveled	Frequency	Percent
1-3	26	23.6
4-6	33	30.0
7-9	28	25.5
10+	23	20.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Inference:** The majority of 30 percent of the respondents traveled 4-6 times.

**Table 5: Awareness of Ecotourism**

Awareness towards Ecotourism	Frequency	Percent
Yes	108	98.2
No	2	1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Inference: Majority of the respondents have a clear awareness of ecotourism

**Table 6: Cross Tabulation between Gender and It minimizes negative impacts on the environment**

Cross Tabulation		It minimizes negative impacts on the environment					Total
		Extremely familiar.	Moderately familiar.	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar	
Gender	Male	18	20	15	8	1	<b>62</b>
	Female	21	23	4	0	0	<b>48</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>39</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>110</b>

**Inference:** The majority of the female respondents have Moderately familiar with negative impacts on the environment.

### Hypothesis

**Ho1: There is no association between gender and It minimizes negative impacts on the environment**

**HoA: There is an association between gender and It minimizes negative impacts on the environment**

**Table 7: Association between gender and It minimizes negative impacts on the environment**

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	14.258 <sup>a</sup>	4	.007
Likelihood Ratio	17.913	4	.001
Linear-by-Linear Association	11.166	1	.001
N of Valid Cases	110		

a. 4 cells (40.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .44.

**Inference:** From the above table.7 shows that the chi-square test at a 5% level of significance p-value is less than 0.05. So, the null hypothesis is rejected. Hence, there is a significant difference between Gendersand It minimizes negative impacts on the environment of the respondents with respect to eco-tourism.

**Table 8: Cross Tabulation between Gender and sustainable use of natural resources**

		It encourages the sustainable use of natural resources					Total
		Extremely familiar.	Moderately familiar.	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar	
Gender	Male	21	30	7	3	1	62
	Female	11	33	2	2	0	48
Total		32	63	9	5	1	110

**Inference:** The majority of the respondents have Moderately familiar with the sustainable use of natural resources.

### Hypothesis

**Ho2: There is no association between gender and sustainable use of natural resources**

**Hob: There is an association between gender and sustainable use of natural resources**

**Table 9: Association between gender and sustainable use of natural resources**

<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	5.554 <sup>a</sup>	4	.235
Likelihood Ratio	6.064	4	.194
Linear-by-Linear Association	.024	1	.878
N of Valid Cases	110		

a. 5 cells (50.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .44.

**Inference:** From the above tabl.9 shows that the chi-square test at a 5% level of significance p-value is more than 0.05. So, the null hypothesis is accepted. Hence, there is no significant difference between Genders and sustainable use of natural resources of the respondents with respect to eco-tourism.

**Table 10: Cross-tabulation between Gender and conservation of nature**

		<b>It contributes to the conservation of nature</b>					<b>Total</b>
		<b>Extremely familiar.</b>	<b>Moderately familiar.</b>	<b>Somewhat familiar</b>	<b>Slightly familiar</b>	<b>Not at all familiar</b>	
Gender	Male	6	40	11	3	2	62
	Female	17	25	5	1	0	48
Total		23	65	16	4	2	110

**Inference:** The majority of the respondents have Moderately familiar with the conservation of nature.

### **Hypothesis**

**Ho3: There is no association between gender and sustainable use of natural resources**

**Hoc: There is an association between gender and sustainable use of natural resources**

**Table 11: Association between Gender and conservation of nature**

<b>Chi-Square Tests</b>			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	12.391 <sup>a</sup>	4	.015
Likelihood Ratio	13.314	4	.010

Linear-by-Linear Association	9.463	1	.002
N of Valid Cases	110		

a. 4 cells (40.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .87.

**Inference:** From the above table.11 shows that the chi-square test at a 5% level of significance p-value is less than 0.05. So, the null hypothesis is rejected. Hence, there is a significant difference between Genders and conservation of nature with respect to eco-tourism.

## Conclusion

This research paper is clearly shown that the majority of the respondents had clear awareness towards an ecosystem in Darjeeling it means hunting poaching, grazing of animals and other activities are well known to the respondents. The larger number of respondents are interested to hear about environmental issues and eco-friendly, This research concluded that there is a significant difference between Genders and negative impacts on the environment, conservation of nature with respect to eco-tourism.

## References

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