

THE EFFICACY OF CITIZEN PARTICIPATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION: LESSON FROM TWO CONTRASTING EXAMPLES

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ABSTRACT

The intrusion of visitors in excessive number and poorly managed tourism may cause to disturb the biodiversity and the ecosystem of any area and thus can be one of the prime movers to create imbalance in the natural environment of any locality. Upon empirical studies, this understanding and environmental consciousness came late in the last century and it came fairly strongly. Realizing the negative impact of uncontrolled tourism, effective initiatives are being taken in many parts of the world. The conviction of the knowledgeable quarter is that a high level of awareness about the environmental conservation and the direct participation from the part of citizen in sustainable management of resource is pivotal in conserving environment and thus to keep a balanced biodiversity and ecosystem. This article was written on basis of the basis of both quantitative and qualitative data. Working with two contrasting examples, this article showed the importance of intervention from the part of both central and local government. Focusing on tourism, it displayed that a careful regulation for tourism activities was immensely needed in conserving environment. It unveiled the efficacy of citizen participation as well. In fact, it was revealed that broader engagement of the local citizens and proper management of the environmental resources would be the two main pillars in safeguarding environmental degradation among others.

Keywords: Biodiversity, Environmental Conservation, Local Citizens, Citizen Participation.