

# **COVID -19 AFFECTING TOURISM IN NEPAL**

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BHM VI

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## **CANDIDATE'S DELARATION**

I, Nikhil Bc declare that this seminar paper entitled covid -19 affecting tourism in nepal is submitted in partial fulfillment of the BHM Degree, the faculty of Management,Purbanchal University is my original work carried out under the guidance of Mr. Hemant Tandon Chhetri. This report has not been submitted to any other College of University for award of academic degree.

Signature:

Name:

Date:

## **Himalayan White House International College**

(Affiliated to Purbanchal University)

### **APPROVAL SHEET**

This is to certify that Mr. Dipesh Raut student of BHM, Sixth semester studying in Himalayan White House International College affiliated to Purbanchal University has completed his seminar report entitled COVID -19 AFFECTING TOURISM IN NEPAL has been accepted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Bachelor Degree of Hotel Management by the following Evaluation Committee.

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## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

COVID-19 pandemic has caused widespread disruption in socioeconomic activities including the tourism sector. Several countries in the world including Nepal has imposed travel restriction and lockdown to combat COVID-19. This study is an attempt to find the tourism impact of COVID-19 in Nepal and forward recommendations for the preparation of evidence-based policy and strategies. Primary data were collected from interviews with 25 travel and tour agencies, 30 hotels and four key informants working in the tourism sector of Nepal. Secondary data were obtained from the Tribhuvan International Airport (TIA), Nepal Tourism Board, journals, books and websites. The results showed that the tourist flow was increasing steadily till recently. In previous year (2019), the tourists' number was increasing from January till March, while in the current year declared as Visit Nepal 2020 the number abruptly declined since March though it was fairly good in the beginning of the year. When compared to the previous numbers, the declining rate of the tourists was 1.96% in January, 1.00% in February, and 73.26% in March. Nepal has been a popular destination for tourists specifically from countries like China, India, and the USA with an annual flow of tourists more than a million. As seen from the available data, the number of Chinese tourists drastically decreased in February and March, coinciding with the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Formation of a high-level task force comprising experts and stakeholders of the tourism sector of Nepal is the need of the time

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## ACRONYMS

HAN: Hotel Association of

NepalGNP: Gross National

Product NTA: Nepal

tourism Board WHO:

World health organization

DOS: Directing of the sell

## CHAPTER-I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study:

Nepal with rich ancient cultures set against the most dramatic scenery in the world is a land of discovery and unique experience. For broad minded individuals who value an experience that is authentic and mesmerizing, Nepal is the ideal destination. Come and revel in the untouched and the undiscovered and uncover yourself.

It is unsurpassed that the sheer diversity Nepal boasts, from steamy jungle and Terai to the icy peaks of the world's highest mountains means that the range of activities on offer. Trekking, mountaineering, rafting in spectacular scenery are just three things Nepal is famous for. Activities as diverse as Elephant Polo and a micro-light flight through the Himalayas show that in Nepal, the only boundary is your imagination. With 15 National & Wildlife Parks (two are UNESCO Heritage sites) Nepal is one of the last places on earth you can spot the Asiatic rhinoceros and the Royal Bengal Tiger.

For many, Nepal's greatest attraction is its people. The traditions and famous hospitality of its many different groups are indeed a major part of what makes Nepal so special. From remote mountain villages to medieval hill-towns and the ancient cities of the Kathmandu Valley, the people of Nepal are always welcoming. Come and experience the strong and unique flavors of Nepalese cuisine, prepared with love and a depth of flavor or join in and celebrate at one of the many festivals year-round. In fact, with more festivals than days of the year, there is nowhere else in the world that can offer as many festivities as Nepal. Tourism is one of the main stays of Nepalese economy. It is also a major source of foreign exchange and revenue. Possessing 8 of the 10 highest mountains in the world, Nepal is a hotspot destination for mountaineers, rock climbers and people seeking adventures. The Hindu, Buddhist and other cultural heritage sites of Nepal, and around the year fair weather are also strong attractions.

Nepal is the country of the Mount Everest, the highest mountain peak in the world, and the Birthplace of Gautama Buddha-Lumbini. Mountaineering and other types of adventure tourism and ecotourism are important attractions for visitors.

### **1.2 Profile of the organization:**

Gorkha International Travels (P.) Ltd. Offers Probably the best of what our country has to present. It is because of our finest and personalized service with our experience and professional team. Gorkha International Travels (P.) Ltd. Offers Probably the best of what our country has to present. It is because of our finest and personalized service with our experience and professional team, our knowledge, reasonable price, value and its hospitality. We are providing travel services in Nepal, Tibet and Bhutan since a decade. Our best travel, tour and trekking guide offers you a best holiday in your choice destinations. Gorkha International Travels is recognized by Government of Nepal.

### **1.3 Objective of the study:**

Most of the researches are focusing on immediate effects of pandemic; however, one has to take into account the long-term and indirect effect as well. Therefore, due to this hard to predict long-term and indirect effect, careful study with prediction, and more long-term research projects are needed. The pandemic crisis is still continued and researchers are engaged in their in-depth study of this phenomenon. The main objectives of this study is to measure the impact of COVID19 pandemic on tourism industry in Nepal and to expand the knowledge on this topic which will serve as a reference to students, researchers, tourism entrepreneurs and consultants.

### 1.3 Significance of the study:

It is very important to study on the tourism sector. Because Nepal GNP is depend upon the tourism sector. Due to pandemic many hotels resort restaurant are came in face of extinction. Many people lost their job. The whole economic system became weak. It is necessary to study t the actual condition of tourism sector. To evaluate the condition of tourism sector of Nepal. After the pandemic.

The study stipulates phases to observe the proposed mechanism in formulating the travel and leisure industry's recovery strategies. The present pandemic COVID-19 has resulted in global challenges, economic and healthcare crises, and posed spill over impacts on the global industries, including tourism and travel that the major contributor to the service industry worldwide. The tourism and leisure industry has faced the COVID-19 tourism impacts hardest-hit and lies among the most damaged global industries. The leisure and internal tourism indicated a steep decline amounting to 2.86 trillion US dollars, which quantified more than 50% revenue losses. In the first step, the study explores the consequences and settings of the COVID-19 pandemic and how innovation and change can contribute to the tourism industry's revival to the next normal.

Thus, the study determines that tourism enterprises and scholars must consider and change the basic principles, main assumptions, and organizational situations related to research and practice framework through rebuilding and establishing the tourism sector. According to our research we came at that conclusion where it is necessary open all hospitality sector of our country. They are the backbone of our whole economy system of the Nepal. Government and other tourism organization should implement different program and policy for boost the economic system of the Nepal.

### 1.5 Limitation of the study:

#### **1. Issues with research samples and selection**

Sampling errors occur when a probability sampling method is used to select a sample, but that sample does not reflect the general population or appropriate population concerned. This results in limitations of your study known as "sample bias" or "selection bias."

#### **2. Insufficient sample size for statistical measurements**

When conducting a study, it is important to have a sufficient sample size in order to draw valid conclusions. The larger the sample, the more precise your results will be. If your sample size is too small, it will be difficult to identify significant relationships in the data.

#### **3. Lack of previous research studies on the topic**

Citing and referencing prior research studies constitutes the basis of the literature review for your thesis or study, and these prior studies provide the theoretical foundations for the research question you are investigating. However, depending on the scope of your research topic, prior research studies that are relevant to your thesis might be limited.

## **CHAPTER-II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Literature review**

COVID-19 pandemic The World Health Organization designated the name of virus disease as 'COVID19' where the '19' in COVID-19 stands for the year, 2019, the virus that was first detected. At the time of Covid 19 Nepal is promoting the visit Nepal 2020 campaign. The campaign was highly distracted by Covid. The number of tourists is decline. The campaign was highly affected by the Covid 19. Due to pandemic tourist which were already in Nepal could not return to their homeland.

In the 21st century, there are two identified immense drivers of change to tourism industry are climate change and global health emergencies. Journal of Tourism & Adventure (2020) Tourists are typically risk averse and, thus, any actual or perceived threat to their health, safety or security is likely to influence their decision to visit a particular destination. For tourism destinations, a key success factor is the ability to provide a safe, predictable and secure environment for visitors. Therefore, the tourism industry tends to be highly sensitive to negative environmental factors like COVID-19 pandemic which has capability to persuade the mobility of tourism to immobility drastically.

## **CHAPTER III**

### **DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION**

#### **3.1 Research method:**

The research design is qualitative in its nature and followed fundamental type of research to expand the knowledge on the subject. The research is based on both primary and secondary data. Altogether, it took four for the researcher to complete series of interviews (unstructured) with the intended stakeholders (Nepal Tourism Board; Trekking Agencies' Association of Nepal; Hotel Association Nepal; Nepal Association of Tour and Travel Agents; and Nepal Mountaineering Association) of tourism industry. Each interview lasted about 40-60 minutes. The questions were related to interviewees' experience of pandemic and their reflections on the crisis management of COVID-19 pandemics, with the same questions about the impacts on tourism industry and its stakeholders were included.

The data collected from the stakeholders are analyzed and presented in findings. Similarly, secondary data were extracted from published journals; articles and emerging media coverage sources. The first step of secondary research is to develop a research question on which investigation will be carried out. The research question is -"what are the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic on tourism industry of Nepal". The second step involves in collecting the relevant data; similarly, third step in this study is collected data were evaluated for the study and finally in the fourth step, the evaluated data is concluded.



### **3.1.1 Population and sample:**

Table 3.1.1: Tourist Arrival of 10 years before and After Covid-19

In above table we can see that the number of tourist arrival before and after the covid-19. There are the data from 2010 till 2020, by observing that data we can conclude that there is huge diminishing rate of the tourists in 2020 i.e. after the covid-19 pandemic. There is the huge downfall in tourist available i.e. negative growth rate of -80%.

#### **Questionnaire:**

3.1.1.1 Which transport facility would tourist prefer the most?

### 3.2 Presentation and analysis

By surveying the Gorkha International Travels and according to the Tourist visited in the Travels there are different perception and views of the Tourists.

Table 3.2.1: Religion Of most tourist visited:

Fig 3.2.1: Pie chart of the tourist visited

As per the table and the pie chart above we can figure out that most of the tourists belongs to the Hindu Religion and there are less tourist which relate to the Muslim religion.

Fig3.2.2 Tourist arrival from India and third country.

The below figure show the arrival of Indian nationality and third country people. At 2016 the arrival of the Indian nationality is low comparatively to the third country people. Where as in 2017 2018 2019 the arrival of the people continually increases. At the 2020 the number of the arrival of the people continually decline.

Table 3.2.3: Purpose of tourist entering in Nepal

Fig 3.2.3: Purpose of tourist entering in Nepal

The above pie chart and table show the purpose of visit of the tourist. Mostly people for the holiday destination. Then after it comes at trekking and mountaineering, Pilgrimage, Holiday pleasure, and other.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **MAJOR FINDING, CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY**

#### **4.1 Major Findings**

By observing the data and analysis of the whole report we accumulated the some of the major topic under the study such as arrival of tourist, religion of the tourist mostly visited and tourist entering in Nepal from India and third country. We observed by different methods such as collecting the data from different sources like journals and other touristic board websites and all. Another data we collected is about the religion and we get that the most of the Hindu people visit the Nepal and the Christian, Buddhist, Muslim in the decline phases. We also collected the data about the purpose of the visit of tourist in Nepal and we find out that most of the tourists visits Nepal for enjoying the holiday and for pleasure likewise mountaineering and trekking to the adventure.

#### **4.2 Summary**

The COVID-19 pandemic is having far reaching impacts beyond the health crisis, and it seems to get escalated. Nepal was least prepared for the pandemic of this nature and scale because limited quarantine service and health-related services were only developed in the initial stage. The performance of government on managing the crisis and deescalating ramification of the pandemic seems challenging with the increasing numbers of infection. Thus, the lockdown strategy to eliminate the transmission seemed effective in the initial stage; however, it could not be the permanent solution. Therefore, Government of Nepal should trace the chain of transmission to control the pandemic as it has already reached the third stage. Addition of health related service, PCR test facilities, quarantines and isolation wards were increased and upgraded with the help of WHO which is still felt inadequate with the rise of infected patient's has prepared a hygiene protocol as guidelines to be maintained strictly for resuming the tourism industry. Altogether, 270 travels and tour agencies, restaurants, curio shops and hotels have been closed in the past three months and around hundreds of hotels and around 10,000 tourism subsectors are facing problem to sustain their businesses amid COVID-19 crisis.

## **4.2 conclusion**

For the recovery of tourism industry, tourism sub-sectors' employees need extensive trainings and orientations to maintain highest standard of sanitation and hygiene; there should be strong monitoring mechanism for the actual implementation of the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for sanitation and hygiene guided by the protocol in the field; if any breaches or gaps are identified then immediate corrective actions must be taken; it is very essential to keep the employees in discipline to mitigate and eliminate the chance of coronavirus transmission.

Hence, this practice will boost up the confidence level of flaccid travelers and motivates them to travel once again. There will be a behavioral change both the hosts and the guests as the footprint of the pandemic which COVID-19 Pandemic and its Impact on Tourism Industry in Nepal be experienced in tourism sectors in coming days.

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## ANNEX

### ANNEX 1

#### Religion Of most tourist visited:

#### Questionnaire:

1. Which religion mostly visit Nepal?



## ANNEX II

### Tourist Arrival of 10 years before and After Covid-19

## **ANNEX II**

### **Purpose of tourist entering in Nepal**

