A Critical Review of the Sustainability of Tourism in Varanasi

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Abstract

As a result of increasing will of people to travel and facilitating travel services, tourism has been presented as one of the high income industries. The emergence of the concept of sustainable development and its influence on tourism changed viewpoints and strategies of governments about development of tourism, because of many environmental issues which had being occurred, parallel to growth of population and tourists, and consequently pressure on the natural sources. Therefore, governments using sustainable development tried to revolute the process and lead tourism, instead, to have positive impact on the environment, society and economy, since their attention were drawn to preservation of natural and cultural heritage. Varanasi, as the capital of culture of India, as one of the Indian tourist destinations, as the oldest city of the world, needs a serious reconsideration about its tourism industry according to sustainable pattern. One the one hand, flowing of more than five million tourists per year, and on the other hand adequacy and in efficiency of infrastructure for welcoming the tourists, lead to an increased unsustainable condition. This essay tries to demonstrate tourist potentials of Varanasi as cultural and environmental heritage, and impact of tourism development on unsustainability of environment.

Keywords: Varanasi, sustainable, tourism development, heritage, environmental.

1. Introduction

Tourism must not be recognized as an industry, but a socio-cultural and economic event with broad economic, social, cultural and environmental consequences. Tourism should be accepted not only as an economic activity that creates positive economic impulses and expand rapidly but also as an activity that can harm artificial and natural environment and create social and cultural problems”(Kerimoğlu and Çiraci 2008: p. 23). The environment, local people, and tourist are three necessary constituents of tourism in such a way so that ignoring one of them will produce unsustainability consequences in tourism. Sustainable development of tourism which is a new approach tries to create a balance between quality of environment and activity of tourist and individual tourism business of host community (khoshnevisYazdi2012: p. 51). The term ‘sustainability’ ‘emerged in 90s and gradually entered to economic and political context; until 1997, there was not established a relation between tourism and sustainable development. It became introduced for the first time in ‘Agenda 21’ for the “Travel and Tourism Industry” which draws its principles from the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development. ‘Agenda 21’ presents tourism as a factor in order to achieve promotion of quality of life and economic flourishing of the local people. According to sustainable development, preservation of environment is responsibility of both tourists and host community (Liburd 2010: p. 5). Other objectives of ‘Agenda 21’ were strengthening of institutional cooperation, improved water waste management, training and education of favouring minorities, and the exchange of information, skills and technologies related to travel and tourism.

According to the World Tourism Organization, sustainable tourism “leads to the management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be fulfilled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems”(GDRC 2015). The objective of sustainable tourism is development of tourism without any ruinous effect on natural, historical, cultural or social resources in order to improve economic growth and to respect to customs of host community. In sustainable development, therefore, according to WTO (2004) tourism should:
(1) Make optimal use of environmental resources that constitute a key element in tourism development, maintaining essential ecological processes and helping to conserve natural heritage and biodiversity.

(2) Respect the socio-cultural authenticity of host communities; conserve their built and living cultural heritage and traditional values; contribute to inter-cultural understanding and tolerance.

(3) Ensure viable, long-term economic operations, providing socio-economic benefits to all stakeholders that are fairly distributed, including stable employment, income-earning opportunities, social services to host communities, and contributing to poverty alleviation.

Indicators of sustainable development of tourism include controlled growth of tourism industry, capacity of surveying number of tourists according to possibility and infrastructure of place, encouragement of local communities in participating in tourism development, in the name of improvement of the economic status of local communities and preserving natural resources. Currently tourism is in the transition situation towards sustainable development form, facing with some challenges: in industry class, changing of the thought of individual sector that involves with provision services to tourism, from short-term to long-term benefits; in consumer class, difficulties of providing requirements of tourism according to principles of sustainable tourism. In government class, changing their policy towards sustainable development and facilitating affairs for this goal (Liburd 2010: p. 21).

2. About the Study Area

Varanasi, the case study, is located between the 25° 14’ to 25° 23’ North latitude and 82° 56’ to 83°03’ East longitude, along the river Ganga with 6.8 Km bank and 84 stairways (Ghats). Population of Varanasi urban agglomeration in 2011 was given as 1,597,051. Varanasi culturally and religiously is a multiplicity composition, regarding its significant background about Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Christianity and Islam. Furthermore, there are many shrines and holy places belonging to those religions including “over 3000 Hindu shrines, about 1400 Muslim shrines 12 churches, 3 Jain temples, 9 Buddhist temples, 3 Sikh temples” (Singh 2012: p. 1). According to the recorded archaeological evidence, human life in this city is dated back to 1000 BCE and according to ancient myths, it is dated at least back to 2500 years BCE. Consequently, from those ancient times, numerous historical phenomena have been emerged in this city which have become tourist’s attractions today. Tourism in Varanasi is divided into two broad parts, i.e. international and domestic; the latter, in the most cases, is of pilgrimage kind. In 2013, the number of tourists was 5,251,413 consisting of 4,988,842 domestic tourists and 262,570 international tourists. The table (1) the details of tourism Varanasi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Domestic</th>
<th>International</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>454,832</td>
<td>108,546</td>
<td>563,378</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>496,539</td>
<td>86,267</td>
<td>582,806</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>534,269</td>
<td>89,658</td>
<td>623,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>597,543</td>
<td>121,942</td>
<td>719,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>792,630</td>
<td>165,714</td>
<td>958,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1,455,492</td>
<td>199,010</td>
<td>1,654,502</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>2,552,365</td>
<td>243,320</td>
<td>2,795,685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2,932,446</td>
<td>302,933</td>
<td>3,235,379</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>3,416,300</td>
<td>380,787</td>
<td>3,797,087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>4,089,311</td>
<td>466,083</td>
<td>4,555,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>4,960,334</td>
<td>567,223</td>
<td>5,527,557</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>4,783,012</td>
<td>278,573</td>
<td>5,061,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>4,966,161</td>
<td>285,252</td>
<td>5,251,413</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Visitors of Varanasi, can be divided into two parts: pilgrims and tourists. Most of international tourism of Varanasi includes:

- (4 – 12 percent): South-eastern and East Asian Countries (followers of Buddhism: Japan, Thailand, Sri Lanka, and Myanmar): they visit Varanasi because of Sarnath, where the first message of Buddha was proclaimed.
- (3.5 – 9.5 percent): France, USA, UK, Germany, and Italy: they have high share of tourism.
- (1.5 – 4 percent): Mauritius, Australia, Netherlands, Switzerland, Poland, Canada.
- (1 and less than 1 percent): Recording from Israel, Malaysia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and around 20% from other countries (Singh 2009: p. 44). New category visitors are from China, Pakistan and Bangladesh. (Singh, Binary 2014)

Month-wise statistics of domestic tourism shows that, “the peak season for domestic tourist inflow, is from October till January as all the important [Hindu] festivals, like DevDeepawali, Ganga Mahotsav, Ramlila, and Nag Nathiya are celebrated between these months” (SPA 2014: p. 201).

3. Tourist Attractions and Heritage Zones

Tourist attractions of Varanasi are, in fact, combination of religion, culture, heritage, and ecology. This is why tourists with different motivations would be attracted to the city. UNESCO has put the Buddhist Stupa situated in Sarnath (Varanasi), the ancient the Buddhist site (UNESCO 2015) in its tentative list.

The Ganga River: The Ganga river that originates from the Himalaya, covers 2525 km, passing through India and Bangladesh, finally flows into the gulf of Bengal. This river, because of its length and considerable volume of water, can create suitable habitats for animals; this is why it is so worthy in terms of ecological issues. In addition, because of its use in agriculture, transportation and fishing, it has caused to improve economic condition of resident people of the riverbank. But unfortunately the Ganga river is ranked as second most polluted river in the world in 2013 after Citarum in Indonesia (Chauhan 2014). The movement about the problem is done by union government of India in 2008 which recognizes the Ganga river as ‘National River’ with the goal of solving environmental issues and protection of heritage (Singh 2011: p. 214). Another aspect of the Ganga is its religious importance. “The Ganges is holy and most famous of Indian rivers” (Alter 2001) and it is worshipped as manifestation of the goddess Ganga. The religious ceremony creates a unique pattern of urbanization that has been retained its function till now, “thus, together the two sides represent the cultural and natural beauty, which is unique in whole course of the Ganga river” (Singh 2010: p. 18).

Ghats: the Ghats are riverfront steps (stairways) leading to the banks of the Ganga river. The riverfront consists of 87 Ghats. “Most of the Ghats are bathing and puja ceremony Ghats, while a few are used exclusively as cremation sites on the river bank stairway” (Bowden 2003), such as: AsiGhat, PancakotaGhat, PrabhuGhat, KedaraGhat, etc.

Forts: RamanagarFort, which is at a scenic location on the eastern right bank of the Ganga river, opposite to the Varanasi Ghats. It is 14 kilometres (8.7 mi) from Varanasi and 2 kilometres from B.H.U.; the Ramanagar Fort was built by KashiNaresh Raja BalwantSingh in 1750. ChunarFort located in the Mirzapur, 32 Km South-West from the city district, according to the Puranas the oldest name of Chunar was Charanadri as Lord Vishnu had taken his first step in his Vaman incarnation in the dynasty of the great mythical king, Bali.

Temples: Notable temples, among many others, are Vishalakshi Temple, DharmakupaKshetra, Annapurna temple, Vishvanath (Vishveshvara) Temple, Bharat Mata Temple, Golden Temple (KashiVishvanatha), TulsiManas Temple, Nepali Temple (Kathwala Temple), Monkey Temple (Durga Temple), Tibetan Temple, New Vishvanatha Temple and SankatMochan Temple.
Mosque: Alamgir Mosque, Gyanvapi Mosque.

Sarnath: this place which is around 10 km far from Varanasi city, is the place where the Buddha delivered his first sermon in 528 BCE; it is also connected with Jainism.

Academies: Banaras Hindu University, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University.

Others: Varanasi has five sacred territories or Khandas and each Khanda has a sacred Yatra associated with it. Most of these Yatras are concentrated in the old city area along the riverfront (JNNURM 2006). In addition we can mention to festivals, musical performance, wrestling matches, handicrafts, silk weaving, Rama Lila as other Tourist attractions.

Varanasi with a multiplicity of monuments needs planning and preservation of historical sites, which recently it has been considered in the development planning such as Master Plan, City Development Plan for Varanasi and Heritage Development Plan. For the first time, in the ‘Master Plan of Varanasi 1991-2011’, a land use become appropriated under tourism and heritage zone with 423.73 ha and 2.37% from total area. According to the ‘Master Plan of Varanasi 1991-2011’, the city has five heritage zones:

1- Riverfront Ghats, this zone is located on bank of the Ganga river, comprising a length of 6.8km and 84 Ghats. From river bank to the city there is a distance 200 meters coverage.

2- Durgakund-Sankatmochan Area, this zone comprises twenty temples and shrines, Durgakund and Kurukshetra pools which their age go back to eighteen century. There is Lolarka Kush in this area that is referred to 2nd century BCE, also two other temples, Tulasi Manas Mandir and Sankatmochan Hanuman Mandir, are located in this zone.

3- Kamachcha-Bhelupura Area, the historical places in this zone are including: Kamachha Devi, Krodhan Bhairava, Angareshi Chandi, Vatuka Bhairava and Vaidyanath Shiva Dvarakadhisha (Vishnu) temples and Shankhudhara pool, in addition to some monuments that belong to British period and some ancient heritage site related to the Jain Tirthankara Parshvanath,

4- Kabir Math (Lahartara) Area, this zone comprises many monasteries which are related to Kabir from sixteenth century.

5- Sarnath, this zone is a little far from Varanasi city and it is related to Buddhism; Buddha gave his first sermon in 532 BCE in this place.

6- Other Heritagescapes, there are other heritage sites not included in these zones such as Sumer Devi temple in Ramanagar, Amethy temple at Manikarnika Ghat (Rana and Singh 2000: p. 149).

4. Tourism Impact

Tourism obviously has many economic benefits for the host community, however one should not neglect the negative impacts of uncontrolled tourism on the environment. Uncontrolled tourism is a potential threat for destination tourism and can be a huge burden on the resources of the region, contrary to the common opinion that only forests and coastal areas can be at risk of damages. It is necessary to say that all tourist sites can be a target of damage. Resource depletion, pollution and physical impacts are three major impact of tourism (UNEP 2015). This does not mean that tourism alone makes environmental problem, but in the cities like Varanasi, already suffering from environmental issues, tourism can increase problem to a large extent.

4.1 Resource Depletion

Water resources: A major impact of tourism is pressure on natural resources particularly water. Parallel to the growth of tourism, there is a considerable demand for fresh water and certainly a significant pressure on water resources. The demanded water comprises direct and indirect water usage. The tourist direct usage of water involve with accommodation and activities such as swimming pools, laundry, irrigation of gardens of hotels, daily cleaning of rooms and other residence related properties, usage of restaurants and large amount usage for taking showers.
and flushing the toilet. Indirect water usage includes tourism infrastructure, the water used for construction of building, highways and roads, industrial and commercial buildings, energy making, transportation, and foods.

Certainly, one reason of increasing requirement of water is tourists and industry of tourism. Hotels and swimming pools ‘overuse of water resource and also personal water usage of tourists can cause shortage of water. Water use per tourist per day is approximately 150 litter in Indian cities that is only the direct uses. According to researchers, estimated range of demand of water per tourist per day in total will be is 2000-7500 litter (Gössling, et al. 2011: p. 13), the table below shows details of water use by tourists.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct Water Use</th>
<th>Litter per tourist per day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>84-2,00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>10-30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect Water Use</th>
<th>Litter per tourist per day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure</td>
<td>n.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fossil Fuels</td>
<td>750 (per 1,000 km by air/car)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biofuels</td>
<td>2,500 (per 1 L)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>2,000-5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Total per tourist per day | Estimated range: 2,000-7,500 |

Source: (Gössling, et al. 2011: p. 13)

Resources of water supply are two major resources, the Ganga river and groundwater, but water of the Ganga river is not appropriate for direct uses and it needs treatment while there is not enough facility for treatment of the water. In 2006, JalSansthan supply was 45% water from the Ganga river and 50% from 112 Tube wells, but because of the increased number of fixed and floating population and raise of their requirement in 2011, the number of wells for taking water from groundwater increased from 112 to 197 and currently 63% of water supply is from wells and 37% from the Ganga river.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of Water Supply of Varanasi</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Capacity (MLD)</td>
<td>Percentage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ganga river</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tube wells (112)</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hand pumps (1559)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Municipal Water Supply</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (CDD, CRDC, AUS 2011: p. 133)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Water Requirement (MLD)</th>
<th>Water Production Capacity* (MLD)</th>
<th>Deficit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>329.01</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>421.13</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2031</td>
<td>551.68</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>391</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: (CDD, CRDC, AUS 2011: p. 135)

Currently, water deficiency’s around 89 ML/D. Considering the present situation, as it can be seen in the table, it is forecasted for 2021 that water requirement for Varanasi will be 421.13 ML/D, whereas water production will be 200 ML/D, with 221 ML/D deficiency. In 2031 this deficiency will raise to 391.68 ML/D. Therefore, flow of a significant number of tourists to Varanasi make a huge demand for fresh water and it cannot become supplied unless with a heavy pressure on underground water resources of this city.

**Land degradation:** The fertile soil, ponds, wet lands, forests, wildlife and open space inside city are main land resources which, in addition to beautification, cause a balanced ecosystem. But with
the growth of tourism and increase of facilities and services, lands are victim of urban development, constructions, accommodation, and infrastructures such as road, and airport for tourism development. Tourism development in Varanasi lead to change of land use and destroy of ponds and open spaces inside city. In fact, hotels are built in lands which previously were open spaces. The tourism industry not only has impacts inside the city, it also has impacts to lands of outside of the city, such as the lands around Sarnath. The lands, a few time ago, were sites of agriculture, wildlife or open spaces and now they’re changed into accommodations or other tourist services.

4.2 Pollution

Air and noise pollution: following the increase of number of tourists and developed vehicles of transportation, tripe by air and number of own cars, there is growth of air and noise pollution which causes health problem, emissions, acid rain, increase of CO₂, environmental disturbances, and vegetation process hampers etc..

Varanasi is a special case in noise pollution, because of heavy traffic, many people come with vehicles like Jip and bus to visit the city everyday but structure of roads in Varanasi is not proper for big vehicles, particularly in the old city, but most of tourist visiting places are located in that area. On the other hand, some factors which increase air and noise pollution along the side of development of tourism are lack of driving rules, entry of old vehicles with technical defects, especially old buses, habit of constant horning, increase number of domestic and international flights to Varanasi, crossings of 260 trains daily from the city, and presence of motorboat on the Ganga.

Following the growth of tourism and development of tourism infrastructure number of brick kilns are also increased. Currently, there are more than 226 brick kilns and most of them work with coals that produce Carbon Monoxide, and if they work with rubber tires, they produce hydrocarbons, Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂), Oxides of Nitrogen (NOₓ), Fluoride compounds, and dioxins. In addition to impacts on human health, they cause bad effects to vegetation process, plant fruits, decrease of fertility of land, photochemical smog's, etc. (Periyar, Das and Ferdous 2013: p. 185)

Cremation: many people travel to Varanasi to die, “Devotees believe that you can wash away your sins by taking a dip in the Ganges at Varanasi. What’s more? dying and having your ashes scattered here is a sacred thing for Hindus who believe that it brings “moksha,” or freedom for the soul from the constant cycle of death and rebirth. To attain this salvation, many travel to Varanasi to die”(Siddiqui 2014). About 88 cremations every day and 25,000 to 32,000 annually in Ghats lead to air pollution. Crematoria includes: Dioxin, hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric acid, sulfur dioxide, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, mercury, hydrogen fluoride, hydrogen chloride, and other heavy metals in the atmosphere (VillageMemorial 2015).

Solid waste: cities which are destination of tourism suffer from pollution issues and polluted beach, rivers, road sides and other places by tourists and modern plastic packing foods and drinks. Varanasi city having over than 1,200,000 fixed population and tourists as floating population has very bad condition in solid waste management. It has been assumed that the local residents of towns generate solid waste at the rate of about 425 grams per capita per day on an average. Total quantity of waste generated in Varanasi is about 600 MT/day (JICA, NRCD, MEF2005: p. 88). But tourists’ waste generation will be more, because of tourist industry and tourism activities. In Varanasi as a pilgrimage destination, in addition to normal wastes, there are other wastes which can be conceived as religious production’s activities such as flowers, coconut shell, etc. used in rituals. Amount of waste generation is between 0.5 KG to 0.9 KG per capita pilgrimage per day. The solid waste which is produced by tourists comprise: plastic water bottles, plastic packages, carry bags, glasses, paper/clay cups, food wastage, coconut shells, flowers, etc. There is no proper system for collection and disposal of waste in Varanasi, this is why solid waste is littering anywhere in the city and it has created environmental issues.
Sewage: the sewage produced by tourists, comprising hotels, guestrooms, restaurant, laundry, cleaning, toilet and other activities, directly and indirectly puts pressure on environment of host community and have ruinous impact on health, environment, ground water, and ends in loss of tourist income (UNEP 2003: p. 24). The condition will be disastrous when destination of tourism does not have proper sewage system. Infrastructure of the sewage system of Varanasi is old and it needs a serious repairing; currently, just 70% of city area is under the system of drain and a significant amount of sewage is discharged into rivers by open canals that result in unpleasant smell, bad vision, accumulation insect and spread of pollution and disease. The current sewage system even cannot support the host community, and flowing of more than 5 million tourists per year, produces huge amount of sewage and it will make unsustainable situation for this city.

River: Annually around 32000 bodies are cremated in Ghats of Ganga and 16000 firewood are used for burning and there produced 7000 tonne ashes and 300 tonnes of charred human fleshes which are related to the poor families who cannot afford to pay for burning, hence their fleshes are unleashed into the Ganga river. Tourism-related Pollution of the Ganga river includes two categories of Biodegradable and Non-Biodegradable. Biodegradable: clay pots of chai, offerings, food items, flower offerings, coals, crimination ashes, charred human fleshes, and woods. Non-Biodegradable: plastic bags, food packaging’s, produced soap of bathing along the shore, around 60,000 people who wash and swim in the holy river every day, colourful aluminium foil papers used during ritual celebrations, chemical detergents of laundering along the shore. The Biochemical Oxygen Demanded for the Ganga river before coming to Varanasi is 5-8 mg/l BOD and after crossing the city, it is 20-50 mg/l, but the allowable limit of BOD for bathing is less than 3 mg/l (DLAUIUC 2014: p. 48).

Aesthetic Pollution: Lack of harmony of tourism-related constructions with indigenous architecture is another issue in tourism destinations and places such as Varanasi whereas rich heritage and specific architecture are reserved. Industry of tourism tries to make luxury situation for tourists, however, tourists come to this city for visiting the oldest city of the world with its all traditional characteristics: Ghats, temples, mosques, forts, etc. each one of which belongs to a special historical period and it is this complex which makes a museum out of this city. New building son the side of old architectures make a very bad composition against elementary aesthetical principles. Through the continuance of this process, Varanasi not will lose its cultural features, even if it loses its tourists.

4.3 Physical impact

Industry of tourism can be a cause of changes in landscape and damage of ecosystem through constructions and development of tourist infrastructure. Although tourist attractions of Varanasi are mostly cultural and religious, the existence of the Ganga river and the lands around it must be considered as an ecosystem and any changes in the land and the river can damage the whole ecosystem of the area. We can enumerate physical impact of tourism in Varanasi as following:

- Destruction of ecosystem and wildlife, and abnormalities of the Ganga river because of pollution and noise of motorboats.
- Increase of brick kiln for development of tourist infrastructure and consequently soil erosion.
- Shrinking of ponds and water body and their land use change to accommodation of tourists,
- Change of open spaces to tourist facilitative constructions.
- Establishment of sand mine on the bank of the Ganga river which follows with construction growth.
- Appropriation of 192.96 HA land in the master plan 2011 to tourist facilities of which 15.32 HA developed in accordance with the master plan 2011 and 177.64 HA developed against the master plan.
5. Concluding Remarks

The current situation shows that tourism in Varanasi not only had been no assistant to sustainable development, but even a move towards unsustainability. Growth of tourism causes short-term economic growth, but in a long period, because of environmental issues, it will become deprived from the income and make serious problems for the host community. Tourism, thus, needs to be controlled and planned in a sustainable way in order to achieve long-term benefits in every way.

Acknowledgments

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