

# Environmentally Sustainable Tourism Problem and Prospects in Bangladesh: A Study on Coastal Region at Cox's Bazar

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## Abstract

Coastal region in Bangladesh is always includes floodplains mangroves marshes and fringing coral reefs. Tourism is considered as the world's largest and rapid growing industry of modern business world. But tourism industry is directly related to the environment. The quality of the environment, both natural and man-made is essential to tourism. The negative impacts of tourism development can gradually destroy environmental resources like loss of marine resources due to destruction of coral reefs overfishing pollution of marine and freshwater resources soil degradation and loss of land resources, air pollution, natural hazards and sea level rise and climate change. Environmental Education must be nurtured from root level to the last day of life to provide the best fruit of sustainable development. This study focuses on the guidelines of the way and contents of different level of environmental Education. Environmentally educated society can carry out the sustainable tourism development of coastal Bangladesh.

**Keywords:** Sustainable Tourism Development, Sustainable Coastal Zone, Eco-tourism, Coastal Tourism., Environmental Impacts.

## 1. Introduction

Tourism is one of the world's largest and fastest growing economic activities, international tourism continues to grow and place stress on remaining natural habitats, which often strengthen tourism. Sustainable tourist destinations have many responsibilities as they attempt to reduce negative tourism impact on their communities. Among other matters efforts can be made to better provide the tourists and tour operators with information about destinations, and minimization of adverse impacts. The World Tourism Organization defines tourists as people who "travel to and stay in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year for leisure, business and other purposes not related to the exercise of an activity remunerated from within the place visited". Globalization aided to set new trends in the field of tourism; tourists are increasingly interested to travel remote and exotic destinations of the world. In response to this growing need many destinations in Asia reconstructed their tourism sector to attract this segment of tourists.

## 2. Objectives of the Study:

The main objective of this study is to know the underlying factors affecting tourism in Bangladesh. In connection of the study the following specific objectives were to:

- To know about the major threats in sustainable tourism
- To know about what the facilities are available for the tourists
- To find fiend out the problems related to sustainable tourism in Bangladesh
- To recommend solutions to overcome problems related to tourism
- To list down major threats in sustainable tourism

## 3. Review of Literature:

The World Tourism Organization defines sustainable tourism as tourism which leads to management of all resources in such a way that economic, social and aesthetic needs can be filled while maintaining cultural integrity, essential ecological processes, biological diversity and life support systems (WTO Report 2002:7). It is widely agreed that education and training are important to the achievement of sustainable tourism (Cater & Goodall, 1992; Ham Sutherland, & Meganck, 1991; Johnson, 1998) and sustainable development (UNESCO, UNEP, 1996). In one study, Azad and Chowdhury (1991) pointed out the development of tourism and economy, and its contribution to the economic development of a country like Bangladesh. In other studies, Ahmed (1986), Hasan (1988), Haq (1991), Hasan (1992), Islam (1994), Patwari (1993), Amin and Salina (2001), Islam (2008), Quddus (1998), Hossain, Rahman & Khan (2005), Islam (2008), Tuhin and Majumder (2010) have exposed the reviews, significance, prospects, opportunities, threats and facilities of tourism considering the problems facing by this country and recommended policies for taking corrective measures. Besides, Alam (2012) conducted a study on

tourism as a development strategy: focusing on sea tourism of Bangladesh. Another study has been undertaken to observe effective and efficient utilization of strategic management of the tourism sector to raise Gross domestic product by Ali and Parvin (2010). Islam & Islam (2004) conducted a study to examine the major reason behind the foreign tourist arrivals in Bangladesh. Hassan (2000) argues that tourism has become sensitive to and depended on a high-quality sustainable environment. Therefore, tourism marketing in the future must focus on forms of tourism that are sensitive to sustain the environmental integrity of nature and cultural heritage resources. He also expects that sustainable tourism will, in the future, make an economic contribution to both the world economy and the economies of the local destination. Hunter (2002) says that “For sustainable tourism to occur, it must be closely integrated with all other activities that occur in the host region”. According to this statement it can be concluded that there is a responsibility that lies on the industry but also on powerful organizations within the destination. Management and control therefore seems necessary to be able to integrate sustainability in tourism development. Swarbrooke (1999) conclude in his previous research that tourism can be seen as an economic activity that produces a range of positive and negative impacts. However sustainable tourism seeks to achieve the best balance between economic benefits and social and environmental costs. In order to plan and develop tourism successfully, economic, environmental and social aspects of tourism must be well understood.

According to Stephen Gough & William Scott (1999), a number of target groups for sustainable tourism education and training suggest themselves, including employees and managers in the hospitality, travel and construction industries, government officials in host countries, potential tourists at their point of origin and, of course, children at school who may assume these or other roles in the future. IUCN, UNEP & WWF (1980), a new ethic, embracing plants and animals as well as people is required for human societies to live in harmony with the natural world on which they depend for survival and well-being. The long-term task of environmental education is to foster or reinforce attitudes and behaviors compatible with this new ethic. UNESCO-UNEP (1996), In order to change unsustainable production and consumption patterns and lifestyles, it (is) essential to give great emphasis to the role of education for sustainable development, including environmental economics as well as environmental awareness.

However, a few more researchers have conducted in the field of tourism of Bangladesh showing foreign tourist attitudes (Hossain, 2002), an appraisal of foreign tourist’s arrivals trend (Hasan and Nela, 2008) and the image of the Bangladesh to foreign travelers and some essentials curative tricks (Chowdhury, 1999; Kalam, 2001), the role of different tourism firms (Hossain *et al.* 2003), development of travel agencies in the country (Bariquillah, 1983), evocative strategies (marketing) for the national Tourism Authority providing marketing tools, pitfalls and policy implications (Hossain, 2002; Islam, 2004) strategic promotion approaches to developing tourism in Bangladesh focusing the role of the tour operator’s performance (Hossain and Firozzaman, 2003).

Sheikh Saleh Ahammed (2010) in his article on Impact of Tourism in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh stated that on environmental aspect, the residents did not significantly mention any positive side but informed some negative sides like hill cutting, forest clearance and unplanned growth of structures along the beach. Nearly two million people visit Cox’s Bazar in the peak season from November to March. Visitors are mainly Bangladeshi nationals and originate from all parts of Bangladesh. The basic intent of visitors includes walking along the beach, ‘sea bathing’ and shopping from the Rakhaine stalls. The beaches of Shoibal, Labonee, Shugondha, Himchari and Innani are particularly heavily visited. Labonee beach is reportedly one of the most heavily visited tourist destinations in the country with daily maximum visitor numbers as high as 30,000 (The Daily Star, 30 Sep 2009).

#### **4. Methodology of the Study:**

This research paper is a descriptive nature of study. Here secondary data are use to address the objective of the study. The necessary data from secondary sources were collected through document analysis. For this purpose, a thorough literature survey has been conducted. In order to obtain the reliable secondary data various journals, periodicals, books, acts, regulations, policies of Bangladesh, websites, annual reports, papers of different agencies were consulted carefully.

#### **5. General Discursion:**

The “Beautiful Bangladesh” campaign which was launched in the year 2007 had the aim of enabling Bangladesh as a destination to penetrate global market and reach the tourists through electronic, print and internet media. On the account of the surge that Bangladesh has witnessed in tourist arrivals in the recent times and given the unique and immense potential the country. The world Travel and Tourism Council has identified Bangladesh as one of the foremost growth center in the world, in the coming decade. The Government has taken the following development strategies and polices for the last six five-year plan (2011-2015);

- To establish tourism infra-structure through public-private partnership investment
- To build a positive image for Bangladesh in abroad
- To arrange various tour programs and provide information services to tourists
- To ease visa arrangements

- To create awareness for tourism development
- To develop tourism human resources through special academic and training programs
- To identify and popularize new tourist products of Bangladesh

There is an increasing concern that the negative impacts of tourism on the natural environment can ultimately destroy the tourism industry itself. The likely impacts of sea-level rise and coastal flooding on small islands and in some coastal areas would include: (a) increased coastal erosion, (b) loss of land and property, including tourist facilities, (c) dislocation of people, (d) increased risk from storm surges, (d) saltwater intrusion into scarce freshwater resources and (e) high financial costs associated with attempts to respond and adapt to these changes. Severe negative impacts on coastal ecosystems, such as bleaching of coral reefs and deterioration of mangroves, are also expected to threaten tourism in many destinations around the world. In fact, global warming is expected to severely disrupt tourism activities not only in coastal areas and small islands, but also in mountain regions because snow conditions in ski resorts are likely to become less reliable. Private sector in the tourism industry in most countries, many initiatives have also been taken by this sector.

### 5.1 Coastal Tourist Attractions:

- **Cox's Bazar:** the world's longest unbroken sandy beach, Cox's Bazar, the tourist capital of Bangladesh, is a conglomeration of miles of golden sands, towering cliffs, surfing waves, rare conch shells, colorful pagodas, Buddhist Temple, tribes and delightful sea-food. The shark-free beach is a good for bathing; basking and swimming. The attractions around Cox's Bazar are Ramu, Moheshkhali, Sonadia, Teknaf and St. Martin's Island.
- **Inani** is a quiet tourist hideout set out in the exuberance of nature.
- **Himchhari** is a beautiful spot in the solitude of sea and the hills. It is about four and a half km southeast from Cox's Bazaar along the beach.
- **Saint Martin's Island:** Forty-eight km. from Teknaf, St. Martin is the country's only coral island and unspoiled paradise with friendly people. Named Narikel Jinjira (Coconut Island) by the locals, the dumb-bell shaped St. Martin has an area of only eight sq. km. from one to four meters above sea level during high tide.
- **Kuakata:** Kuakata is a rare scenic beauty spot on the southernmost tip of Bangladesh in the district of Patuakhali. It has a wide sandy beach from where one can get the unique opportunity of having a glance of both the sunrise and sunset. It is the place of Pilgrimage of the Hindu and Buddhist communities during the festival of Rush Purnima and Maghi Purnima. On these occasions they take holy bath and traditional fairs are held here.

### 5.2 Specific Situation of Coastal areas in Bangladesh:

Bangladesh is located at the head of the Bay of Bengal, and the country has a coastline of approximately 710 km. The Coastal Zone Policy considers three indicators for determining the landward boundaries of the coastal zone of Bangladesh, which are: influence of tidal waters, salinity intrusion and cyclones/storm surges (Ministry of Water Resources, 2005). The policy regards the exclusive economic zone as the seaward coastal zone. In Bangladesh Coxes Bazar sea beach is the world largest sea beach of total 155 km. Coastal areas are transitional areas between the land and sea characterized by a very high biodiversity and they include some of the richest and most breakable ecosystems on earth, like mangroves and coral reefs. At the same time, coasts are under very high population pressure due to rapid urbanization processes. More than half of today's world population lives in coastal areas (within 60 km from the sea) and this number is on the rise. Additionally, among all different parts of the planet, coastal areas are those which are most visited by tourists and in many coastal areas tourism presents the most important economic activity. In the Mediterranean region for example, tourism is the first economic activity for islands like Cyprus, Malta, the Balearic Islands and Sicily.

### 5.3 Sustainable Tourism at Cox's Bazar

Tourism development can have both positive and negative impacts on destinations. Sustainable tourism development attempts to find a balance between these impacts to create an improved quality of life for the host community and the destination. From our perspective Sustainable tourism is a form of nature saving, community beneficial and way of economy generation which provides a quality experience for visitors while improving the quality of life of the host community and protecting the quality of the environment by ensuring the continuity of the natural resources upon which it is based and the continuity of the culture of the host community with satisfying experiences for visitors by maintaining balances of the needs of the tourism industry, supporters of the environment, and the local community. According to Choi and Sirakaya (2005), 'sustainable tourism is defined as an alternative form of tourism that improves the quality of life of the host community while providing a high quality experience for the visitors and maintaining the quality of the environment on which both the host community and the visitors depend.' Some of the sustainable coastal tourism principles are following; a) be ecologically bearable in the long

term, as well as economically viable, and ethically and socially equitable for local communities. b) Be integrated with the natural, cultural and human environment. c) Consider its effects on the cultural heritage and traditional elements, activities and dynamics of each local community. d) Encourage the participation of all actors, both public and private and should be based on efficient co-operation mechanisms at all levels: local, national, regional and international. e) Promote measures that permit a more equitable distribution of the benefits and burdens. f) Support quality criteria both for the preservation of the tourist destination and for the capacity to satisfy tourists.

#### **5.4. Coastal Tourism Zone in Bangladesh:**

Depending on the geo-morphological features, coastal zones of Bangladesh can broadly be divided into the following three regions:

**a. The Eastern Region:** Morphologically the eastern coastline of Bangladesh started from the big Feni River to Badar Mokam (southern tip of the mainland) along Chittagong can be classified as a "Pacific Type" coast running parallel to the young (Tertiary) folded hill ranges.

**b. The Central Region:** This region begins from the Tebegins from the Tetulia river to the big Feni river estuary including the mouth of the Meghna river upto the confluence of the Padma (Ganges-Brahmaputra) and the Meghna river near Chadpur.

**c. The Western Region:** The western region covers the coastline westward from the Tetulia River to the international boundary (India) located at the Hariabangha River. The region is mostly covered with dense mangrove forests with deeply scoured tidal channels of the tidal plain overlapping abandoned Ganges delta.

#### **5.5 Different Forms of Tourism:**

Tourism is undertaken for pleasure. According to Jeansson (2007) in the Swedish National Encyclopedia the term tourism is defined as visitors' activities when they travel to places that exist outside their ordinary environment. The duration of the stay shall be shorter than a year and the main purpose of the trip shall not involve work that is compensated by someone at the destination.

**5.5.1 Cultural Tourism:** Cultural tourism (or culture tourism) is the subset of tourism concerned with a country or region's culture, specifically the lifestyle of the people in those geographical areas, the history of those people, their art, architecture, religion(s), and other elements that helped shape their way of life.

**5.5.2 Female Sex Tourism:** Female sex tourism occurs when females travel in order to gain sexual or romantic favors that are scarce or not available to them in their own country. Female sex tourism is often ignored due to the significantly lower rates in comparison to male sex tourism.

**5.5.3 Water Tourism:** Water tourism is traveling by boat while on holiday, with the express purpose of seeing things meant for the water tourist. This can be traveling from luxury port to luxury port in a cruise ship, but also joining boat-centered events such as regattas or landing a small boat for lunch or other day recreation at specially prepared day boat-landings.

**5.5.4 Disaster Tourism:** Disaster tourism is the act of traveling to a disaster area as a matter of curiosity. The behavior can be a nuisance if it hinders rescue, relief, and recovery operations.

**5.5.5 Dark Tourism:** Dark tourism (also black tourism or grief tourism) is tourism involving travel to sites associated with death and tragedy. The main draw, however, to these locations is mostly due to their historical value rather than their associations with death and suffering.

**5.5.6 Heritage Tourism:** Cultural heritage tourism (or just heritage tourism or Diaspora tourism) is a branch of tourism oriented towards the cultural heritage of the location where tourism is occurring. The National Trust for Historic Preservation in the United States defines heritage tourism as "traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past," and cultural heritage tourism is defined as "traveling to experience the places and activities that authentically represent the stories and people of the past and present."

**5.5.7 Ecotourism:** Nowadays ecotourism is thought to be a popular alternative to mass tourism for scarce natural resources. According to The International Ecotourism Society (TIES) ecotourism is "responsible travel to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people."

#### **6. Sustainable Tourism Problems:**

There are many different ways of defining sustainable tourism. To make it easier for the reader to understand how the researchers of this study defines the term the definition of Choi & Sirakaya (2005) has been chosen to be used throughout this research study. According to Choi & Sirakaya "Sustainable tourism is defined as an alternative tourism form that improves the quality of life of the host community, provides a high quality of experience for the visitors and maintains the quality of the environment on which both the host community and the visitor depend." The National Tourism Policy of Bangladesh declared in 1992 have the objectives to preserve, protect, develop and maintain tourism resources, so that it helps to alleviate poverty by providing employment opportunities; which suggests the National Tourism Policy adopted the strategy of sustainable tourism. Infrastructure facilities are not

adequate for the tourism sector in Bangladesh. Infrastructure, such as accommodation facilities are not satisfactory at different tourism spots in Bangladesh. Some accommodations are highly expensive and are not affordable by average domestic and international tourists and some are in poor condition. Transportation linkage to different tourism spots by road, rail, air and water is not efficient. A master plan of national transportation network is seemingly not in place supporting the national tourism policy and existing tourism attractions of the country. The success of tourism sector cannot be imagined without an effective policy of advertisement, marketing and public relations. Bangladesh lacks in skilled manpower and technical expertise to formulate policy guidelines for advertisement, marketing and as well as for building public relations. Unplanned development beside the tourism spots affects the physical environment of the spots. It destroys the natural scenic beauty of the sites. For example, at Cox's bazaar sea beach and Saint Martin Islands, development of many unplanned commercial establishments, such as hotel, motel and shopping centers disturbs the tourists and as well as spoils the environment. Tourism development requires a huge infrastructure development that cannot be ensured without physical plans. Finally, political vision is a prerequisite for the development of sustainable tourism in the country. Unfortunately, the lack of political will is commonly observed in such efforts. There is also lack of effective coordination among various organizations, which are directly or indirectly involved in tourism sector. As a result, the current policy is not adequate for flourishing this sector in the country successfully.

**6.1 Development of Infrastructure:** Cox's Bazar has developed better road network with the main city Chittagong that could be an important indicator of a socio-economic development to the region. This implies that this area has the ease of transportation facilities required to support international tourist demand.

**6.2 Development of Chittagong Airport:** Besides being a busy seaport, Chittagong also developed an international airport. This development of air transport in this region also benefited locals since social services are quicker. Cox's Bazar have its own airport for domestic flights called Shah Amanat Ali airport, this further suggests most required basic infrastructure was created to develop tourism and attract international visitors by the government.

**6.3 Local Business Development:** Due to presence of tourists in this region, a number of wholesale and retail traders in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong provide a variety of product and services to local and foreign tourists. This includes all types of food in the hotels and restaurants, handcrafts, other entertainments etc. This requires higher involvement of both locals and government in the decision making process that benefits and strengthens local economy.

**6.4 Control of Resources:** Tourism control power lies with locals and Bangladesh government, which is deemed as a positive progress for implementing sustainable tourism strategies in the region. Mbaiwa (2005) states dominance of the industry by foreign investors and non- local investment can lead to reduced control over local resources. The loss of local control on resources could be considered as one of the most negative long-term effects of tourism as the locals suffers a sense of loss of place and develop negative attitude towards tourists. The tendency of foreign investor is to maximize profit in the shortest possible period; even at the cost of degradation of local environment, culture and social aspect due to their profit maximizing strategies (Mbaiwa, 2005). Therefore, it is very important for Bangladesh government and locals to dominate major controlling power to prevent any step not in line with the concept of sustainable tourism development.

## **7. Prospect of Sustainable Tourism in Bangladesh:**

Tourism sector in Bangladesh is the potential sector to ensure huge contribution in the economy of Bangladesh. Proper development of this sector is possible to earn a huge amount of foreign currency which will be contributed to the growth of national economy. Which provides a sufficient employment opportunity for people who are directly or indirectly involved in this sector. It is a service providing sector. This sector will help to increase household income at community level and as well as the revenue of the government. It will also help reduce the economic gap between the rich and poor people of the country. The people who come from developed countries are different in life style, background and income level from a developing country, like Bangladesh. Bangladeshi people may get opportunities to compare their life style with the people of others developed countries. It may be possible to introduce Bangladesh to the rest of the world through tourism sector. It may also be helpful to create better image to foreign nations through proper management of sustainable tourism activities. If the sector can be managed properly and may attract people from different regions of the country and international sources to visit the attractions in Bangladesh, it will create goodwill for the country. Tourism can also play an important role in social and cultural development through cultural exchange and contact between people of different race and nationalities. This sector has also educational significance. The people of the country can learn many things by sharing knowledge with tourists who come from different national and international sources. It also creates

opportunities for investment with tourism sector and tourism business development purposes of coastal region in Bangladesh. Master plans are under preparation for development of Cox's Bazar up to Teknaf, St. Martins Island and also for Kuakata area. Formation of Cox's Bazar Development Authority and declaring Kuakata as a municipality are under process for implementation and supervision of planned development. A time bound plan up to the year 2014 and another up to 2021 are also prepared.

### **8. Findings of the Study:**

The tourism industry has become increasingly concerned with the environmental, as well as the socio-cultural problems associated with unsustainable tourism. As a result, there is now increasing agreement on the need to promote sustainable tourism development to minimize its environmental impact and to maximize socio-economic overall benefits at tourist destinations. Regarding the potential future focus of tourism research in general, it is also important to attempt to ensure that the current fragmentation and possible lack of comparability in the tourism literature actually improves as opposed to worsening. Due to the site specificity of tourism impacts, case studies are an important element of tourism research. The findings of environmentally sustainable tourism related to tourism research is also suggested that natural scientists, economists, social scientists and decision-makers must all work together in order to produce studies that are comprehensive and interdisciplinary thus capturing the complexity and multi-faceted nature of tourism itself.

The following key findings of the study to analyze domestic and international visitor's opinion of Cox's Bazar and assess negative impact caused from tourism in this area:

**8.1 Frequency of visit:** 76% domestic people visited Cox's Bazar more than two times, which suggests destination loyalty or a lack of alternate recreation option at sea beach in Bangladesh.

**8.2 Purpose of visit:** 89% people visit at Cox's Bazar for study tour, official tour, honey moon or others recreation purpose.

**8.3 Cox's Bazar, a fun element:** More than 72% respondents agreed with the statement that, Cox's Bazar offers a lot of fun at world largest sea beach in Bangladesh. Majority of the visitors visit the area for the beach experience.

**8.4 Hotels at Cox's Bazar:** More than 84% respondents are satisfied with the accommodation facilities available at Cox's Bazar in spite of the fact that they do not reflect international standard (Shamsuddoha, 2011).

**8.5 Restaurants at Cox's Bazar:** More than 81% visitors find restaurants at Cox's Bazar because of their satisfactory hospitality and hotel management system. The restaurants however meet local expectation of required standard but they do not qualify as restaurants of international quality.

**8.6 Beach area:** More than 89% respondents found that, the sea beach area is overcrowded and more than 57% respondents considered that the sea beach area is comparatively dirty and nesty.

**8.7 Safety and security at Cox's Bazar:** more than 53% respondents argued that tourism place at Cox's Bazar is a safe place to visit, with 28% respondents undecided and another 31% respondents considered the tourist area is unsafe.

**8.8 Transport System:** more than 80% respondents argued that, the transportation to go and return from Cox's Bazar is satisfactory. Cox's Bazar is well connected with Chittagong by road and air, and Chittagong is accessible via air, rail and road transportation from every part of the country. The present transport facilities satisfy domestic tourists yet it lack required quality to satisfy international standard.

**8.9 Provide available facilities:** Most people would like to see availability of more beach activities like para riding, surfing, speed boat ride, diving, food festivals (mainly local and sea food), cultural shows etc. This suggests that demand for more beach activities are there. It is important to create new attractions or finding natural resources that have not yet been exploited in order to improve position in the destination cycle (Anguilo, 2005). New attractions in nearby beach areas in Chittagong will provide more employment and earnings and reduce load on Cox's Bazar sea beach.

### **9. Recommendations**

The sustainable tourism in Bangladesh can endorse through the promotion of national strategies for decentralization of sustainable tourism, the hold up for deliberate and community inventiveness's; and the promotion of sustainable tourism at the international level. It should be lucid by now that even ecotourism activities can cause adverse

ecological impacts, particularly if they are not properly managed or if they involve tourist numbers beyond the local carrying capacity. The steps need to be followed unsustainable tourisms from tourism operators, local government, tourism organizations, community groups, parks managers, indigenous community or enterprise, regional development organizations, interpretations officers and everyone. Sustainable tourism initiatives that facilitate direct and protect key natural and cultural heritage assets. The following recommendation for sustainable tourism enhancing in coastal reason in Bangladesh;

- Impact of tourism to the local community should be carried to assess the vulnerability of the surrounding community.
- Reasons for mangrove deforestation, land reclamations and siltation. Short-term economic gains from the development of these areas are obviously preferred over the long-term benefits of the conservation of ecology.
- Water sports, beach driving, beach accommodation is also causing serious problem to the natural environment as well as for tourism and these should be stopped.
- Beach wastes including plastics and other wastes are causing very serious problems; an urgent action plan is needed immediately to mimic the problems.
- A monitoring system to ensure the effectiveness of coastal and environmental regulations.
- The disposal of wastes solid, semi solid of non-biodegradable was then a serious problem and that there was need for education to increase environmental awareness, and for the use of re-cycling technology.
- Garbage from tourist resorts should be disposed of in a manner that would not cause any damage to the environment. All garbage disposed into the sea should be done as far away into the sea as necessary in order to ensure that it does not get washed onto any islands with the current.

## 10. Conclusions

Bangladesh has much potential for development of tourism. It has many natural attraction and many social and cultural events of interest. If these are properly developed and marketed the tourism industry will be able to attract more international tourists and contribute to growth of tourism in the country. The common problems in tourisms are exploited rapid growth of coastal tourism; The seasonal nature of tourism has led to swings in employment and income most markedly in the small sector and to the unskilled worker; There has been no clear nor firm policy relating to tourism; most decisions have been on a purely ad hoc basis; and the policy initiatives that have been introduced are not attentive to local concerns.

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