

CHAPTER -ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 General background

1.1.1 Nepal at a Glance

Tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world where Nepal cannot be apart from this. Mr. Herman Schullard of Austria derives word "tourism" from French word "tourism" in 19th century. In simple word, tourism is defined as the activities of tourists or travellers away from home more than a night. Likewise, tourism in Nepal is not much long but it has been started since 1950 formally. The country ascends from the tropical plains of the flat terai to siwalik through the high and middle mountain to high icy peaks in the Himalayan region. The world's highest peak Mt. Everest (8848 m) lies in Himalayan region of Nepal. Due to geographical, cultural, ethnical, biodiversity and religious diversity, the country is known as the kingdom of diversity. Tourism can be one of the major tools to reduce the poverty if it is handled properly.

Nepal is a small and beautiful country with snow-cold torrents and green vistas. It is situated in south eastern part of Asia between two huge nations India and China. It is a country of numerous and diverse villages having three different ecological regions running from south to north namely Terai, Hill and Mountain. It is located between latitude of 26⁰22"N and 30⁰27" N and longitude between 80⁰4"E and 88⁰12"E. It has a wide an areas 1,47,181 sq. km with 885 km east west and average of 193 km north to south. (CBS, 2011), Its population is 2,64,94,504 (CBS, 2011). 83 percent of total population is living in rural areas and 25.16 percent people are under poverty line (NLSS, 2011). The per capita income of Nepalese people is \$ 735 per annum (MoF, 2011). The gap between haves not is still increasing. Despite the natural beauty, the social-economic scenario indicates that it very challenging to develop the nation.

Nepal is very rich in natural resources occupying land of just 0.03% of the world and 0.3% in Asia. Likewise, it lies between the altitudinal variations ranging from 60m to 8848m. Nepal is the second richest country in water resources. Similarly, it has many more beautiful types of scenery, bio-diversity etc. On the other hand, it is an extremely rich cultural storehouse. There is diversity in language and culture, people live with harmony and unity and people are

friendly with smiling faces. There are 14 mountains above 8000m in the world and out of that 8 are in Nepal. Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world, which lies in Nepal.

Nepal, a mountainous country is considered as nature's paradise. It is a paradise for ornithologist, nature lovers, hikers, trekkers and researchers of various disciplines. The country is recognized for its unique and pristine natural and cultural diversity. Nepal's immense heritage sites are of immediate aesthetic, architectural, historical and social significance. Numerous interesting natural and cultural sites have attracted tourists of different parts of the world.

1.1.2. Concept of Tourism

In the decade of 1950s, Nepal adopted democratic rules for the tourist. So, Tenzing Norgé Sherpa and Sir Edmund Hillary climbed the highest mountain (Mt Everest). In this decade, Nepal developed the tourism promotion campaign through various activities. There are seven different cultural sites from Nepal, which are included in the world heritage list of UNESCO 1979. These are Lalitpur Durbar Square, Patan Durbar Square, Hanuman Dhoka Durbar square, Swyambunath, Baudhanath, Pasupatinath and Chagunarayan. Recently, Lumbini has been included in the world heritage list. More than 1250 heritage sites have been identified and documented from 72 districts outside Kathmandu valley. Most of these heritage sites are located in the rural areas which can be the core attraction for the tourists visiting those areas. Similarly, the different protected areas are also gradually listed and going to be included in the list of world heritage sites. Pilgrimages are also famous in Nepal where different shrines, temples and monuments are concentrated like Gosaikunda, Tatopani, Muktinath etc. Nepal is attracting and keeps interest to adventure mountain places in order to see outstanding scenery, altitude, topography, climate, vegetation and life zones of the Himalayan region. (Adhikari, 2005)

The seventh five-year plan of Nepal brought a new approach in tourism. This included furnishing information to the mountaineers with a good communication system, daily weather reports of the mountains and emphasized on increasing public awareness on the mountain tourism and environmental sustainability. The implementation of the seventh five-year plan put emphasis on the native style accommodation services to the tourists and new sites were opened for tourism, one of them was popular Annapurna Century. The resort area development program, under the 7th five-year plan, also included Hille of Dhankuta and Srinagar of Palpa at tourism

sites. At the same time some basic survey programs had also been launched in Rara Lake, Tikapur, Chisapani of Kailali, ShreeAntu Danda of Ilam, Dhorpatan of Baglung and Kulekhani of Makawanpur etc. Then, many tourists knew about Nepal as natural beauty.

1.1.3 Eco-tourism

"Eco-tourism as segment of tourism that involves travelling to relatively undisturbed or uncontaminated natural areas with the specific object of admiring, studying and enjoying the scenery and its wild plants and animals, as well as any existing cultural features".(Adhikari,2005).

Environmentally friendly tourism where both host and guest are aware of environmental degradation as a result of participation in tourist activities. Protection and preservation of natural as well as socio-cultural environment while traveling has attracted the attention of all concerned with tourism.

Eco-tourism is one of the fastest growing trends in the tourism industry. The term eco-tourism is generally used to describe tourism activities that conducted in harmony with nature as opposed to more traditional 'mass tourism' activities. Eco-tourism society defined it as purposeful travel to natural areas to understand the cultural and natural history of the environmental talking perceptions not to alter the integrity of eco-system while producing economic opportunities that make the conservation of natural resources financial beneficial to local citizen, (Shrestha,1999).

In this context, 'environmental' refers to both 'physical and human' conservation and preservation of environment has received considerable attention both in developing and developed countries. The primary market for eco-tourism are special interest tourists such as scientists, researchers, those who are interested indifferent nature and culture, and those who want to take an unusual trip. Recently the conventional tourists also want to include eco-tourism as an item of their traveling menu.

Ecotourism in other words, incorporates both a strong commitment to nature and a sense of social responsibility. That responsibility extends to the sensitivity of the travellers. The term "responsible travel", another aphorism for ecotourism, encapsulates its aims. The ecotourism

society gives a slightly fuller definition: "Ecotourism is responsible tackle to natural areas which conserves the environment and improves the welfare of local people".

1.1.4 Godawari

The study area Godawari is a southern town in Godawari Municipality situated at Lalitpur District in the Bagmati Zone of central Nepal. The greenest, most perfect part of the valley lies at its southeastern edge, i.e. GODAWARI. Nestling at the foot of forested Phulchoki, the highest peak of the valley rim, are the pleasant National Botanical Garden, the temple at Naudhara and Godawari Kunda, hidden in a gorgeously rural side-valley. The study area, Godawari, occupies the Lalitpur districts. Godawari is popular hill station in Nepal and is situated about 15 kilometers away from Kathmandu. It is located in an altitude of 4722ft from sea level. The study area lies between the latitude 27⁰61" N and Longitudes 85⁰36"

In Dec 2014, Nepal government merged five Village Development Committees including Godawari to create Godawari Municipality. In 2011 it had a population of 15,572 in 1,825 individual households. It is one of the popular hiking destinations in Nepal for its rich wildlife and splendid environment. Within Nepal, Godawari is also famous for its botanical garden where different plants and trees can be found. It is best known for the green fingers of its inhabitants. The village is home to Nepal's National Botanical Gardens and the approach road is lined with the nurseries that supply Kathmandu with flowers and potted plants.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Tourism is one of the main sources of national economy in Nepal. Our country still depends on traditional agriculture system and has not provided employment opportunities in a big margin so far. On the other hand, tourism is the fastest growing industry, which has so many possibilities in Nepal and it can provide the best employment opportunity for a large number of rural people as tour guide operator, hotel owners, etc who can be directly and indirectly benefited. It helps in income generation and increase per capita income of the family.

Many eco-tourist destinations of the country are located in wilderness areas where indigenous and marginalized people are residing so it is newest opportunity to people involved in

higher travel trade industry to local entrepreneurship. It is one of the most feasible sources of alternative income generation from natural resources.

Godawari has the highest potentiality of eco-tourism where people can enjoy with various types of flora and fauna, wild animal, birds, friendly people and their socio-cultural diversity etc.

In this twenty first century, the age of globalization, tourism has become a cornerstone of development for any developing country. The magnitude may differ but the role of the tourism to the development can't be denied. The developing countries in this age can't even take a foot path ahead without external assistance like tourism. In case of Nepal, in this present situation of post war the one and only source of economic stabilization and growth rate maintenance is tourism income. Nepal's per capita income is being increased which is only due to the increasing trend of tourism income. The study will address the following research questions:

- What changes the ecotourism has brought in the study area?
- Are the respondents of the study area conscious about ecotourism?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The general objective of the study is to know the status and potentiality of the tourism development in Godawari, however, the followings are the specific objectives:

1. To explore the socio-economic aspects of tourism in the study area.
2. To study the tourism potentiality in the Godawari V.D.C.
3. To analyse the facilities available for tourists in the study area.

1.4 Significance of the study

Eco tourism is an important niche market in the world tourism industry. It is becoming popular as an alternative to mass tourism. The concept of ecotourism emerged to address the problem created by environmental damage associated with mass tourism.

Ecotourism can play an important role in the ecological and economic development of a nation. It is necessary to explore the way, which can help to integrate ecotourism with poverty reduction and natural resources management.

Nepal is well placed for tourism development. In Kathmandu valley alone, there are places like Godawari, Kakani, Dhulikhel, Shivapuri, Fulchoki, Dachhinkali, Godawari and so on. The present study is intended to cover one of these places of Kathmandu valley, namely Godawari which has been blessed by the bio diversity and its flora and fauna .

Godawari is the touristic area nearby Kathmandu valley surrounded by hills and greenery .It is famous for its natural beauty, short hiking, Botanical garden and also for the spectacular view of Kathmandu valley. So, most of the tourists visiting Kathmandu visit Godawari. The study also helps to those people and organizations that are the needy of the facts and figures of Godawari generally in tourism and eco-tourism in particular. Thus the scope of ecotourism is optimistic there. Implementation of ecotourism program in Godawari would be beneficial for the nature conservation and community development as well. In this context present study dealing with the impact of tourism as well as natural resources of the area and potentiality for ecotourism development would be of greater significance. This study will also be helpful for planners, policy makers to set out necessary program for preventing further degradation of existing natural and cultural resources and sustainable utilization with ecotourism implementation. It may also contribute to future researchers working in this area.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study is to explain and explore the prospects, problems and implications of ecotourism in the rural sector. As everything has its own pros and cons, the limitation that our study consists of:

1. The study was mainly confined to Godawari VDC of Lalitpur district of Nepal. Thus, generalization of the conclusion derived from the study in national/international level may not be relevant to others.
2. The study was very specific case study. It only deals the potentiality of the ecotourism in Godawari VDC.

3. The study was limited in terms of deeper analysis as only few samples were selected from the universe.
4. The information provided by different households and respondents may not be sufficient in itself and may have limited accuracy.

1.6 Organization of the Study

The study in total consists of five chapters. The first chapter includes introductory information about study and study objectives i.e. background, statement of the problem, objective of the study, rationale and limitation of the study.

In second chapter reviews of literature is included. The third chapter describes the methodology adopted for the study i.e. research design, rationale of the study area, sampling procedure, data collection techniques and tools.

Data analysis and interpretation of the study has been organized in chapter four while major findings, conclusions and recommendation are incorporated in chapter five.

CHAPTER - TWO

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

Tourism is a white industry. In this modern world, tourism industry has been growing at an outstanding rate and it has appeared as the world's largest and greatest export industry. Following the advanced development of science, information and technology, the world from some years new has been 'global village'. The basic information of the particulars places through internet and electric media such as television, radio, etc and the easy access with the speeding transportation, the human desire of traveling across has been increased more than ever in this century. The ample interference is that tourism has been the fastest growing industry of this world. (Baral, 1998)

Different people inside and outside the country have conducted many studies in this field. More and more studies about the tourism are coming into focus. Therefore, tourism is not a new concept. These studies are made on different ways and facts of tourism in Nepal and furnish important information for the present study. In order to make the study more reliable, some of the important studies are reviewed. In addition to that, the various related tourism magazines, booklets, Newspaper, published and unpublished reports and publications also are reviewed. (Baral, 1998)

2.3 History of Tourism in Nepal

Traveling is very ancient phenomenon. Travel has existed since the beginning of time when primitive man set out. Often traveling great distances in search of game provided the food and clothing necessary for their survival. Throughout the course of history, people have traveled for purposes of trade, religious conviction, economic gain, war, migration and other equally compelling motivation. Thus, in ancient time, great motivations for travel were political or commercial interest, curiosity to know the custom and the habits of other people and finally religious sentiments.

Systematic tourism in Nepal started from 1966 A.D. with the establishment of a few hotels. The industry was further strengthened and established after the formation of tourism

master plan in 1972 A.D. The master plan gave emphasis of tourism market development, sight-seeing, trekking, eco-tourism, recreational and adventure tourism. Following this different support services such as accommodation facilities and resort centers in different important tourist sites were also established. (Baral, 1998).

According to the famous Austrian political economist Herman Von Schullard, "Tourism is the sum total of operators meaning of an economic nature which directly related to the entry, stay and movement of foreigners inside and outside a certain country, city or region".

McIntosh,"The some of the phenomena and relationships arising from interaction of tourist business suppliers, host government and host communities in the process of attracting and hosting tourist and other visitors."

Thus, it is clear that temporary movement of people to destination outside their residence and working places is known as tourism. Their activities during the stay would be different from the activities of the residents and spending money that is earned elsewhere. The main motive of participation in tourism is not to seek permanent residence at destination that distinguishes it from migration. The journey and stay of tourists give rise to various demands such as transport, accommodation, safety, medical services, entertainment and other specific services. The destination should be in a position to supply. Therefore the place visited or destination is considered as the supplying sector of tourism services and the visitors denoted the demand sector is tourism.

Natural beauty, local life of indigenous people and the tradition culture have become the most valuable wealth. An American geographer, JR has noted that for meeting one's basic requirements trading of cultural importance becomes necessary and here is no alternative to tourism. In fact this can surely be a thing of benefit as long as the mountains don't become smaller of tourists will keep on growing, judging from the stand point of tourism, the Himalayan region can ensure more advantage. The experts in planning and people have to improve management as well as preserve the opulence of the Himalayas. In many places especially in the delicate environment of the Himalayan region the unrestricted entrance of tourists has become a threat. The mountain treks where nearly about five thousand on foot tourists move become hateful with the useless articles, plastic bags, cans and other waste materials. In Khumbu of the

mid mountain region of Nepal, due to trekking on foot the adjoining dense forests have been badly damaged (Baral, 1999).

The influence of external culture or limitation of their values is perhaps the consequences, which cannot be checked and brought about by inviting the tourists. The Himalayan region has been bearing the impact of this adverse influence for cars. Only a few will say that the open door policy for foreign visitors is completely wrong. Some others also say that it is necessary to take the Himalayan society in the modernity of the twenty first century such as the almost extinct handicrafts and art of Lalitpur have been revived by tourism. But in the long run some people think that a bad culture will drive away good things. They think that owing to excessive number of tourists, Kathmandu has not remained a dear place as in the past.

It conducted a study about the economic benefit of tourism and its role in further promote of local arts and crafts of Lalitpur. The study suggested increasing sightseeing excursionists so as to make them stay longer by offering restaurant facilities and cultural attractions (Adhikari, 2005).

Tourism is a forefront industry in context of globalization. Globalization helps us to put forward our unique products to international market that can generate income and employment. Curiosity about unheard, unseen and unknown is a basic human nature. This type of behavior leads human being to new places and people. Since through long time immemorial people have traveled along way from their home to explore new places and people. Later on, these types of activities were termed as tourism. Basically, tourism is a leisure activity of temporary nature, and does not involve earning related activities (Adhikari, 2005).

Any style and type of tourism that has the potential to bring benefits to the local economy while contributing to natural and cultural resource conservation. Tourism has emerged as the fastest growing industry in the world and it is said to be the third largest industry after oil and automobile. Direct employment through tourism industry in the world is believed to be maximum. Many people in the world are engaged in tourism and travel industry for livelihood (Sharma, 2000).

There is no alternatives of saving Nepal from tourism and big shots of westernization. We have to lose something to gain something. In order to digest external culture rather more

contact policy is to be taken up since the country can't move ahead without income derived from tourism. (Baral, 1998).

Nepal Tourism Development Program has incorporated various aspects of tourism and Nepalese economy product development programs, marketing strategy, environmental impact, importance of education and training, institutional framework for the development of tourism, incentives to be given to tourism industry has been dealt with the report. The study has observed that the basic economic strategy of the tourism industry should be to earn net foreign exchange for the country other aims such as employment generation, income generation region distribution are subsidiary aims but where conflicts arise these subsidiary aims must not detract from the main aim. At the same time, the tourism industry must achieve proper returns on the capital invested so that it can be mobilized for future investments.

2.4 History and Concept of Ecotourism

The history of nature travel is traced back to Aristotle who is known to have traveled to the Island of Lesbos in the Aegean Sea where he spent time studying marine creatures. Nature travel during the 19th Century was essentially a quest for spectacular and unique scenery. This was also the time when the concept of national parks came into being.

Hector Ceballos-Lascurain popularized the term 'ecotourism' in 1983, when he was performing the dual role of Director General of Standards and Technology of SEDUE (the Mexican Ministry of Urban Development and Ecology) and founding president of PRONATURA (an influential Mexican conservationist NGO). According to him the meaning of eco-tourism in a single word is "Respect". Respect is the root of everything worthwhile and good. Respect to nature, local people culture, history, community, aspirations and tourist themselves (Adhikari, 2005).

Ecotourism focuses on local cultures, wilderness adventures, volunteering personal growth and learning new ways to live on our vulnerable planet. It is typically defined as travel to destination where the flora, fauna and cultural heritage are the primary attractions. Responsible eco-tourism includes program that minimize the adverse effects of traditional tourism on the natural environment, and enhance the cultural integrity of local people. Therefore, in addition to evaluating environmental and cultural factors, initiatives by hospitality providers to promote, re-

cycling, energy efficiency, water re-use and the creation of economic opportunities for local communities are an integral part of eco-tourism (Adhikari, 2005).

"It promotes a code of ethics in relation to other species that grants rights of continued existence to those species. It promotes non-destructive aesthetic, spiritual values. And it actually does something for wildlife in so far as it provides humans with an economic and moral incentive to set aside and maintain space (habitat) for wildlife and it discourages harassment" (Gauthier, 1993).

Ecotourism involves visiting natural areas with the objectives of learning, studying or participating in activities that do not bring negative effects to the environment; whilst protecting and empowering the local community socially and economically."(Cristina, 2004).

Eco-tourism principally concerns experiencing the natural or cultural environment without threaten it. While it started as description of a kind of natural tourism that would raise consciousness to conservation issues, later it also included concern for host community. At present in Nepal it is referred to as the practice of nature tourist that minimizes the negative impacts of tourism on environment and socio-cultural aspects. It looks for a balance between 'natural conservation', 'sustainable socio-economic development', and 'nature-tourism' eco-tourism also implies a managed approach to tourism development (Chauhan, 2004).

Eco-tourism is a small elite band of dedicates a nature lover. Ecotourism is really an amalgam intersts arising out of environmental, economic and social concerns. Take conservation, for example: the heady days when the superintendent of Yosemite Gloated. In recent years the dangers to natural areas of too many visitors have been a great concern. Conservation is devoting a good deal of thought to making tourism work for nature preservation.

Ecotourism must be predicated upon a system perspective that includes sustainability and involvement - participations of local, rural people in those areas where the greatest potential for ecotourism development can be found. Ecotourism must be seen as a collaborative effort between local people and concerned, informed visitors to preserve wild lands and their biological and cultural asserts through support of local community development. By community development, we mean the empowerment of existing local groups in ways that only sustain the resources but also meet the social, cultural and economic needs of the group.

2.5 Eco-tourism in Nepal

In the Nepalese context, the prime aim of ecotourism has been to promote a symbiotic relationship between tourism and the environment with a particular focus on uplifting the local village economies. In order to fully tap Nepal's tourism potential and give it long-term sustainability, the impact of tourism needs careful assessment. Ecotourism has been touted as an attractive sustainable development alternative to mass tourism for two main reasons. The first is that ecotourism has fewer negative impacts on natural resources than mass tourism, while the other reason is that ecotourism-related activities can enhance conservation of natural resources, community development and overall socio-economic improvement of the area. In this light, the practice of ecotourism, per se, is a new phenomenon in Nepal. However, the country has seen environmental conservation and tourism being integrated in the name of sustainable development for quite some time. This is largely due to management of the protected areas such as Annapurna and Sagarmatha where considerable conservation works are being carried out. It is interesting to note that when the Annapurna Conservation Area Project, one of the pioneer projects, was launched, ecotourism as such was not in the planners' minds. It was what their initiatives have been labeled more recently. (Gurung, 1980).

However, in the last few years, the KMTNC under its largest undertaking, ACAP, has been engaged in implementing Nepal's first formal ecotourism program in the Ghalekharka-Sikles area (area of honey hunters) funded by the Government and the Asian Development Bank, effective from 1992. This project, comprising foot-trail construction, forest zoning, proper camping facilities for trekkers and other environmental conservation works, can be regarded as one of its kind for the promotion and development of ecotourism in Nepal. (ACAP, 1999).

The ACAP, Nepal's first and largest (7629 km²) conservation area with a population of 125,000 local inhabitants, is the country's most popular trekking destination. It receives around 50,000 trekkers and an equal number of support staff such as guides and porters. During the 1970s there were hardly any lodges in the Annapurna region. But the influx of hippies and budget trekkers changed the nature of tourism in the region, and the country as a whole. This led to the proliferation of lodges along the main trekking routes, and public land encroachment became common. Today the Annapurna region has over 1000 lodges and tea shops catering

mainly to the independent trekkers and backpackers. Some of these lodges have been built in areas which had never been settled by local people, such as Ghorepani, Annapurna Base Camp and Tolka. Even though the lodge settlements were illegal, the activities continued. Forests were cleared to build lodges and tea shops. Barren fields were used as campsites. Fuel wood was indiscriminately used. Local control over the use of natural resources and tourism development in the region was lacking. Thus rapid deforestation, landslides, loss of topsoil, land and water pollution, and loss of wildlife habitats became very evident, threatening the environmental quality of the region and livelihood of the local people. Against this backdrop in 1986, the government assigned KMTNC to play an active role in tourism management. (Baral, 1999).

The ACAP believes that tourism, properly managed, can bring great benefits to the land and the people of the Annapurna region. Rather than a necessary evil, tourists are regarded as partners in fulfilling the goals of biodiversity conservation, cultural revitalization and sustainable economic development. In the Annapurna region nature and culture share the tourist spotlight. Trekking is a unique form of recreation that allows tourists to enjoy these features in an interactive, challenging and educational manner. In return they can supply the region with much needed capital to carry out conservation and local development programs. The challenge remains to develop pro-active policies and practical methods to mitigate the negative effects of tourism and highlight the positive effects. (ACAP, 1999).

2.6 Current Status of Tourism and Ecotourism Practices

One of the objectives of Nepal's tourism policy is to develop and expand the tourism industry by promoting the natural, cultural and human environments of the country. Although there is no specific mention of ecotourism in the policy, it does contain a policy for sustainable development of the tourism sector which can be interpreted as the recognition of the importance of ecology and the overall environment while promoting tourism. The Ninth Five-Year Plan (1997–2002) has also taken the environment into consideration for the development of the tourism sector. It clearly states that tourism activities based on social, natural, religious and cultural environments of the nation will be developed and diversified during the Ninth Plan.

Despite the above-mentioned provisions in the policy and other official documents, there have been no concrete incentives by the government to the private sector for ecotourism promotion as such. It is just entitled to the normal concessions and facilities as per the Industrial Enterprises Act, 1992 and Environment Protection Act, 1996 accorded to any other industries which are engaged in environmental protection activities.

Having adopted the eco-tourism model in its program for mountain trekking jungle wildlife viewing and village culture, Nepal has tried to fit it into the country's unique physical and cultural geography (Chauhan, 2004). There is evidence of a growing market for more specifically organized village tourism experiences, particularly from culture-seeking European segments and comfort-needing North American and Asian non-trekking visitors and eco-tourists to visit new area and spend liberally to new destinations (Pandey, 2003).

A relatively new style of ecotourism is village tourism. The network of home stays, teahouses and small lodges that have emerged in village along Nepal's popular trek routes are among the most successful examples of village tourism in Asia (NTB, 2011).

Nepal is a country of amazing extreme is the home of the world's highest mountains, verities of resources and cultural diversity as Nepal, though a small in size, has immense cultural and natural diversity and is one of the most beautiful countries in the world.

Eco-tourism, mass tourism, village tourism, rural tourism and sustainable tourism are divided various. Although eco-tourism is not a new concept in Nepal, people for the sustainable use of natural resources and cultural assets are being emphasized in order to canalize benefits to the affected communities (Bhandari, 1997). In ecotourism not only the activities of the tourists are involved but also elements such as the conservation of ecosystems and sustainable development (Kunwar, 1997).

Eco-tourism is being developed and promoted by the government without destroying the natural resources of the surrounding environment the role and importance of hoteliers and other facilities developed for tourism promotion on environment conservation is quite enthusiastic. Its principle generates income without destroying the environment and local people must be partners in this process.

As far as the development of the ecotourism activities is concerned the growth of ecotourism started during 1990s. In these regards, ACAP is first to start country, then after SPCC was initiated in Sagarmatha region. In 1992, another ecotourism project (KEEP) was initiated in Kathmandu. Since then various other ecotourism projects initiated in other regions, in 2000, ADB ecotourism project etc. More recently, a new project has been introduced to reduce poverty and promote ecotourism phenomenon in the country; it is Tourism for Rural Poverty Alleviation Programs (TRPAP) more ecotourism programs may be expected to come in future (Bhatt, 2001).

Eco-tourism is a form of culturally and environmentally sensitive travel which fosters and environmental ethic among travellers and also contributes to the conservation and management of natural areas for long term, sustainable economic development. Eco-tourism is particularly advantageous to developing countries. It attracts persons who are tolerant even interested in running small scale locally erected accommodations built by local people with local materials. Eco-tourism emphasizes the employment of local people as guides, interpreters and custodians of protected areas because of their experience and knowledge accumulated and handed down over centuries.

2.7 Ecotourism of Godawari

Godawari is the highest potentiality of eco-tourism where people can enjoy with various types of flora and fauna, wild animal birds, eye catching scenery, friendly people and their socio-cultural diversity etc.

The prospect of tourism development in Godawari is determined by different physical and cultural factors. The physical factors are location, landform, climate and natural sceneries etc. the cultural factors are cultural landscape, customs and traditions of different community groups, accessibility, accommodation and hospitality etc. Godawari has its own scope for tourism development. The fundamental attractions of tourism in Godawari are natural sceneries, pleasing weather, short trekking, colorful different communities such as Tamang, Hill Brahman, Hill Chhetri, and Rural Newar, their customs and way of life, terraced landscape, and curio village, peaceful environment and so on. Godawari is a great natural catchments area with outstanding scenic beauty and graceful charm. The top of Godawari lies highest peak

Phulchowki which offers exhilarating views in all directions. The hills, mountains, and Himalayans ranges, rivers, sunrise-sunset, forests, view of compact valley settlements etc are strong forces attracting tourists. Godawari is a vast natural amphitheatre. Natural beauty exerts as strong fascination for the tourists; the botanical garden of Godavari has dynamic flora and fauna Godawari. The historical places like Nahudhara and Godawari Kunda temple offers traditional and cultural concept to visitors as well .

CHAPTER - THREE

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Methodology is the backbone of the study. So, it needs to be well defined to conduct the study. Therefore in this study the following methodology will be adopted to fulfill the objectives.

3.1 Research Design

It is the blueprint for the collection of data. It is a work plan owing to the objective of the research. For this study, a descriptive and exploratory research design was followed. The descriptive method was used for the qualitative data obtained during the study. The data's that were not quantifiable was explained literally. I also looked into the problem by exploring the views of different set of respondents, as well as by exploring different literatures related with the study.

3.2 Rationale of the Selection of Study Area

Since last decade ecotourism has emerged as an important topic of concern in Godawari VDC of Lalitpur district. So the present study was carried out in Godawari VDC.

The reason to select Godawari was that the development of tourism/ecotourism was heard very much in the local newspapers about the benefit the people are receiving from Godawari. The reason for selecting this study area was, it is easily accessible from capital Kathmandu about 32km from the center of Kathmandu city. All in all the researcher was well convinced that by the selection of this VDC, it could get more accurate information to fulfill his objectives easily and effectively under any circumstance than any other study area.

3.3 Nature and Sources of Data Collection:

Data is a set of fact, sheets the wholesome aggregate of which gives the information. This information in fact contributes to the inquiry of truth and approaches towards the reality. Since, this research was more concentrated towards the prospects of ecotourism in rural area of Nepal i.e. Godawari VDC of Lalitpur district, the degree and depth of impact of ecotourism is different in different aspects of rural livelihood was studied. On this regard quantitative research was

carried out. It is because it helps to analyze the calculated information with the standard normative values and helps in comparisons. The attitude, awareness and perception of various stakeholders was studied through qualitative research method. However, every information cannot be quantified nor all the data can be interpreted quantitatively so various elements were interpreted in qualitative nature.

So the data gathered are both qualitative and quantitative in their nature.

Similarly both primary and secondary data were used in this study.

3.3.1 Primary Data

In the due course of this research, primary data was collected through observation, interview employing structured and semi structured questionnaire as per the convenience to aid to the study.

3.3.2 Secondary Data

Since, this research is mounted on the base of description and analysis, secondary data plays the vital role. The various internal and external sources were used for acquiring the secondary data. The various sources consist of:-

- Village Development Committee
- Central Bureau of Statistics
- Economic Surveys published by NRB
- Nepal Living Standard Survey by CBS
- Bulletins/reports, Google, etc.

3.4 Universe and Sampling

In Godawari VDC, there are 1825 households and total population is 7558 out of which male and female population are 3715 and 3843 respectively. (Population and Housing census, 2011).

Among the 1825 households, 30 households was selected on the basis of random sampling method, similarly 10 shops near to the foot trail of the study area was selected by lottery method and 15 tourists were selected in 3 different time intervals (3*5). In order to make the study meaningful as well as advanced, within the limited time period a larger sample size was not feasible so the sample taken can be considered to be good representative of the universe of study.

3.5 Techniques and Tools of Data collection

This research was conducted by employing various methods for data collection. Both primary and secondary data were collected. The researcher himself collected the primary data from the respondents by conducting the questionnaire survey with the family of the local people related with ecotourism. For the collection of primary data following data collection techniques was adopted:

3.5.1 Households Survey

The name list of the household head was obtained from the VDC office and house to house survey was conducted through questionnaire and interview. The questionnaire forms were filled up by the researcher interviewing with household heads. In the absence of household head, another senior person present at the home was taken as the respondent

3.5.2 Interview

An interview is the person to person interaction between two or more individuals with a specific purpose in mind. To explore ecotourism related problems and prospects in the study area, interview method was also conducted by the researcher. General problems, advantages and disadvantages regarding ecotourism were asked with the respondents (local people, tourist, shopkeeper) in the study area. The data's was collected through formal and informal interviews using structured and open end questions.

3.5.3 Key Informant Interview

A Key Informant Interview is semi structured conversations with the people who have specialized knowledge about the topic. To dig out its major key informant's interview was

conducted within the study area. The key informants were Teacher, local political leader, VDC staffs, businessman. By interviewing them on the basis of prepared set of questionnaire information was recorded.

3.6 Data Processing and Analysis

The collected raw data can be molded as per the requirement and objectives of the research. The various steps that were followed are

3.6.1. Data Processing:

a. Editing: The collected raw data was edited to detect error and omissions. So to overcome the possible error in our research editing was done carefully.

b. Coding: In order to make the research more systematic and scientific, assigning of numerals or symbols to answer was carried out, so that it helped to allocate the answer whenever necessary.

c. Classification: The result of research study was at large volume in the form of raw data. So in order to simplify it was classified into homogeneous groups, so a meaningful relationship was profoundly studied.

d. Tabulation: After the necessary classification of data the next step was arranging the data in respective tables/ charts. The tabulation is essential in order to systematize and logical arrangement of data for further manipulation.

3.6.2 Data Analysis:

All the data's was analyzed systematically with the help of a scientific calculator and the computer. Data was presented in percentage form when required, tables, graphs, diagram was used to meet the requirement of this study. Data was studied comparatively to get required results about the efficiency of that remittance income and the effect of that remittance income in the research area.

CHAPTER- FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter attempts to analyze the collected data and information from the field survey and various sources in response to meet the objectives of the study and to derive the major findings of the study. Firstly it includes the brief introduction of Lalitpur district and Godawari VDC regarding its demographic, socio-cultural, economic, geological, political and other aspects.

4.1 Study Area

4.1.1 Godawari VDC of Lalitpur District

Lalitpur Sub-Metropolitan City is the third largest city of Nepal after Kathmandu and Pokhara and it is located in the south-central part of Kathmandu Valley. Lalitpur is also known as Manigal. It is best known for its rich cultural heritage, particularly its tradition of arts and crafts. It is called city of festival and feast, fine ancient art, making of metallic and stone carving statue. At the time of the 2011 Nepal census it had a population of 226,728 in 54,748 individual households.^[1] The city received extensive damage from an earthquake on 25 April 2015.

Lalitpur is on the elevated tract of land in Kathmandu Valley on the south side of the Bagmati River, which separates it from the city of Kathmandu on the northern and western side. The Nakkhu Khola acts as the boundary on the southern side. It was developed on relatively thin layers of deposited clay and gravel in the central part of a dried ancient lake known as the Nagdaha.

The city has an area of 15.43 square kilometres and is divided into 29 municipal wards. It is bounded by east Imadol VDC, West Kirtipur and Kathmandu Metropolitan City, North Kathmandu Metropolitan City and South Bajrabarahi Municipality and Karya Binayak Municipality.

Climate is characterized by relatively high temperatures and evenly distributed precipitation throughout the year. The Köppen Climate Classification subtype for this climate is "Cfa" (Humid Subtropical Climate).

The study area, Godawari, occupies the Lalitpur districts. Godawari is located approximately ten kilometers from both Patan and Kathmandu, and many outdoor enthusiasts flock here to enjoy the breathtaking views and beautiful landscapes. It is known as one of the popular hiking destinations in Nepal for its rich wildlife and natural splendor. Visitors can reach Godawari by bus from Patan and they are able to catch a glimpse of quaint towns such as Thaiba and Harisiddhi along the way. Godawari is one of the most picturesque and diverse destinations in Nepal and has much to offer visitors. From fascinating sights, breathtaking natural beauty and a rich history, just waiting to be discovered.

The study area Godawari is a southern town in Godawari Municipality situated at Lalitpur District in the Bagmati Zone of central Nepal. The greenest, most perfect part of the valley lies at its southeastern edge, i.e. GODAWARI. Nestling at the foot of forested Phulchoki, the highest peak of the valley rim, are the pleasant National Botanical Garden, the temple at Naudhara and Godawari Kunda, hidden in a gorgeously rural side-valley. The study area, Godawari, occupies the Lalitpur districts. Godawari is popular hill station in Nepal and is situated about 15 kilometers away from Kathmandu. It is located in an altitude of 4722ft from sea level. The study area lies between the latitude $27^{\circ}61''$ N and Longitudes $85^{\circ}36''$

Godawari offers the best view of the Himalayan panorama. Many excursions are made from Godawari to Lamidadha, Lubu and other places. Even godawari has been central attraction for cycling now a days. Godawari is located approximately ten kilometers from both Patan and Kathmandu, and many outdoor enthusiasts flock here to enjoy the breathtaking views and beautiful landscapes. It is known as one of the popular hiking destinations in Nepal for its rich wildlife and natural splendor. Visitors can reach Godawari by bus from Patan and they are able to catch a glimpse of quaint towns such as Thaiba and Harisiddhi along the way.

The Royal Botanical Garden in Godawari attracts many local residents and visitors over the weekends. The garden is an extravaganza of plants, trees, ferns, flowers and orchids. Most of the

plants within the garden are marked, making recognition much easier. Godavari is also famous for its breathtaking butterflies, which can be seen gliding peacefully amongst the beauty and splendor of the garden. Avid bird watchers can be spotted in the garden, patiently waiting to view some of the rare and unique birds.

Another popular attraction in Godavari, is the Godavari Kunda, or Godavari Spring. It is a sacred and religious site that is absolutely fascinating. Gargoyles carved from stone will lead visitors to the tank of sacred water. This water flows from within the temple's courtyard to the tank. Many legends are connected to the spring and the Madras River. The marble quarry that has operated in the region since the year 1890 has caused mass deforestation, exposing the 2 762 meter Pulchowki mountain. Visitors that summit the "Place of Flowers" will find the Pulchowki Mai shrine, in dedication to the goddess of the forest. Godavari is also home to the Mohan Meakin Brewery and a meteorological observatory. Godavari is the highest potentiality of eco-tourism where people can enjoy with various types of flora and fauna, wild animal birds, eye catching scenery, friendly people and their socio-cultural diversity etc.

4.1.2 Geographical Setting of the Study Area

Godawari, occupies the Lalitpur districts. Godawari is popular hill station in Nepal and is situated about 15 kilometers away from Kathmandu. It is located in an altitude of 4722ft from sea level. The study area lies between the latitude $27^{\circ}61''$ N and Longitudes $85^{\circ}36''$. Scattered hills of different heights are located under these barriers. The soil of Godawari is rocky and porous, little suited for cultivation. Geographically this area falls within the middle hills region. The map of the study area is shown Annex:

4.1.3 Climate

Generally, Godawari has sub-tropical to warm-temperate climate for four seasons. The spring or pre-monsoon (mid February to May) is windy, dry but pleasant with little or no precipitation. Summer or monsoon starts from June and ends around mid of the September. It is humid and hot with heavy rainfall. The autumn or post-monsoon starts from mid-September and ends the November. It is dry but sunny. The winter, November to mid-February is cool and foggy with short but sometimes precipitation. Sometimes the temperature drops below Zero degree

centigrade at high peak like Phulchowki and we can see the snow fall over there. Godawari is covered with snow for short period. The mean annual temperature is 18⁰c. Normally, the temperature of this area ranges from 2.6⁰c to 12⁰c in winter and 15.4⁰c to 23.3⁰c in summer (CBS, 2011).

4.2 Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Households

4.2.1 Ethnicity/Caste

Ethnicity/caste composition is the components related with socio-cultural aspects. Different ethnic/caste has own culture, practices and needs which significantly affect their income, their way of living and perceptions about various things related with their life. The ethnicity/caste composition of the respondent is presented below in table no.4.1

Table No.4.1

Ethnicity/Caste Composition of the Sample HHs

S.NO	Ethnicity/Caste	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1	Tamang	17	42.5
2	Newar	12	30
3	Brahmin	4	10
4	Chhetri	3	7.5
5	Others	4	10
		40	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2014

Above table shows that out of the total HHs, Tamang (42.5%) are the predominant in that area followed by Newar (30%). Similarly, Brahmin (10%) and Chhetri (7.5%) are found in the study area as well.

4.2.2 Sex and literacy composition of sample HHs

The analysis of sex and literacy status of the respondent is one of the important parts of our research. These factors directly and indirectly affect the people's perception, their

understanding and behaviors towards the term 'ecotourism'.. Besides this other social and economic parameters like occupation, income generation etc are also influenced by sex and literacy composition. The sex and literacy composition of the samples is presented below in table no. 4.2

Table No. 4.2

Sex and literacy composition of the respondent HHs

Sex/Literacy	Literate		Illiterate		Total Population(↓)	
	No	Percentage	No.	Percentage	No	Percentage
Male	84	79.25	22	20.75	106	48.85
Female	69	62.16	42	37.84	111	51.15
Literacy rate(→)	153	70.51%	64	29.49%	217	100%

Source: Field Survey, 2014

The above table shows that in the study area, the female population is slightly higher 51.15% than male population, 48.85 %.The total population of 40 samples HHs is 217, with average family size 5.42 per household.

In the above table, the literacy rate is calculated by taking literacy status of household's members as well as by adding school going male/female as literate in their respective composition. The literacy rate is higher in male (79.25%) than in female (62.16%). The overall literacy rate of the study area is 70.51%.

4.2.3 Household Size of the Respondents

Different households have different desire and needs. It is obvious that higher the household size, higher will be the needs and vice versa. Distribution of households according to family size is shown below

Table No: 4.3

Distribution by the Households size of the Respondents

S.N.	HH size	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	1 to 4	7	17.5
2.	5 to 8	30	75
3.	Above 8	3	7.5
TOTAL		40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The above table shows that highest no.of household (75%) has family size between 5 to 8. Similarly 17.5% households have family size between 1 to 4 while 7.5% HHs has family size of 8 and above. The average household size of sample respondents of Machhegaun VDC is 5.42

4.2.4 Occupational Status of the Sample HHs

Occupation is one of the important indicators of the socio- economic status of the people. It also determines the household's wealth, well-being, literacy status and social stigma in society which plays a vital role in every aspects of life. On the basis of major occupation in the study area, the households engaged in Agriculture, Business, Job, service and service in foreign country has been shown below:

Table No: 4.4

Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of occupation

S.N	Occupation	No. of HHs	Percentage(%)
1.	Agriculture	17	42.5
2.	Service/Job	9	22.5
3.	Business	10	25

4.	Others	4	10
TOTAL		40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The above table shows that majority of HHs (42.5%) are involved in agriculture as their major occupation. It is obvious because people are engaged in agriculture in any way in substantive farming. About 22.5% people are involved in services and jobs like priest, teachers, etc. Meanwhile 25% HHs is involved in business like shopkeeper, hotels, etc. Similarly, 10% people are engaged in other occupation such as daily wage labors, gone as migrant labors, etc.

4.3 Distribution of HHs on the basis of the knowledge about Ecotourism

It is very important to have knowledge about tourism in this modern day. In addition, concept of ecotourism is gaining significant importance in these recent years. If a community/people is conscious about this new concept then, many programs can be launched to promote and conserve the local culture, community and most importantly nature which will eventually be beneficial for the local people of that very locality. The following table shows the number of HHs who have the knowledge about ecotourism:

Table No. 4.5

Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of idea about Ecotourism

S.N.	Idea about Ecotourism	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1	Yes	18	45
2	No	22	55
	TOTAL	40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table shown above, majority of the sample HHs (55%) did not have the knowledge about the term 'Ecotourism.' However 45% of the sample had idea about that term. In addition, most of them understood what tourism means.

4.3.1 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of the understanding and meaning of Ecotourism

Perception of people varies depending upon their interest, knowledge and study about certain subjects. In the study area, it was found that, 45% of the HHs had an idea about the concept ecotourism but its meaning can be different for different people. The following table demonstrates the different meanings people had about the term ecotourism.

Table No. 4.6

Distribution on the basis of meaning of Ecotourism

S.N.	Meaning of Ecotourism	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	Experiencing remote, uncrowded and unspoiled nature	7	38.89
2.	Increasing wildlife knowledge	1	5.55
3.	Interaction with native people	1	5.55
4.	Economic benefits to local community	6	33.33
5.	Taking only photographs and leaving only footprints	3	16.67
	TOTAL	18	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

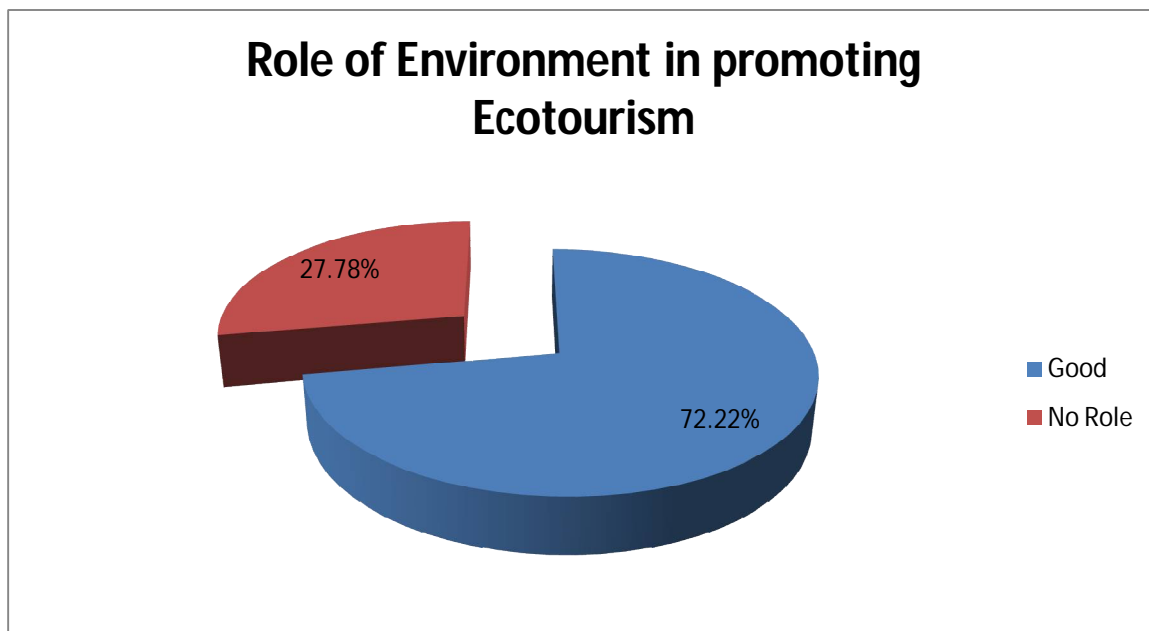
According to the table, out of 18 HHs, 38.89% of the HHs thought the meaning of Ecotourism was experiencing remote and unspoiled nature. Meanwhile, 33.33% of them gave their view as economic benefits to the local community. In the same way, 16.67% thought it was taking photographs and leaving only footprints. However, remaining HHs had other meanings about Ecotourism.

4.3.2 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of understanding the relationship between environment and Ecotourism

As we know, tourists visit various places to get pleasure. However, there are different factors that contribute to this factor such as pleasing weather, clean environment, good accommodation, facilities, etc. In the same way, ecotourism can be helpful for the development of a community, environment as it provides avenues to economic benefits. In this part, we focus about the relationship between environment and nature. The table below illustrates the view of local HHs about the connection between environment and ecotourism.

Figure No. 4.1

Sample HHs view about the role of Environment in promoting Ecotourism



Source:Field Survey, 2014

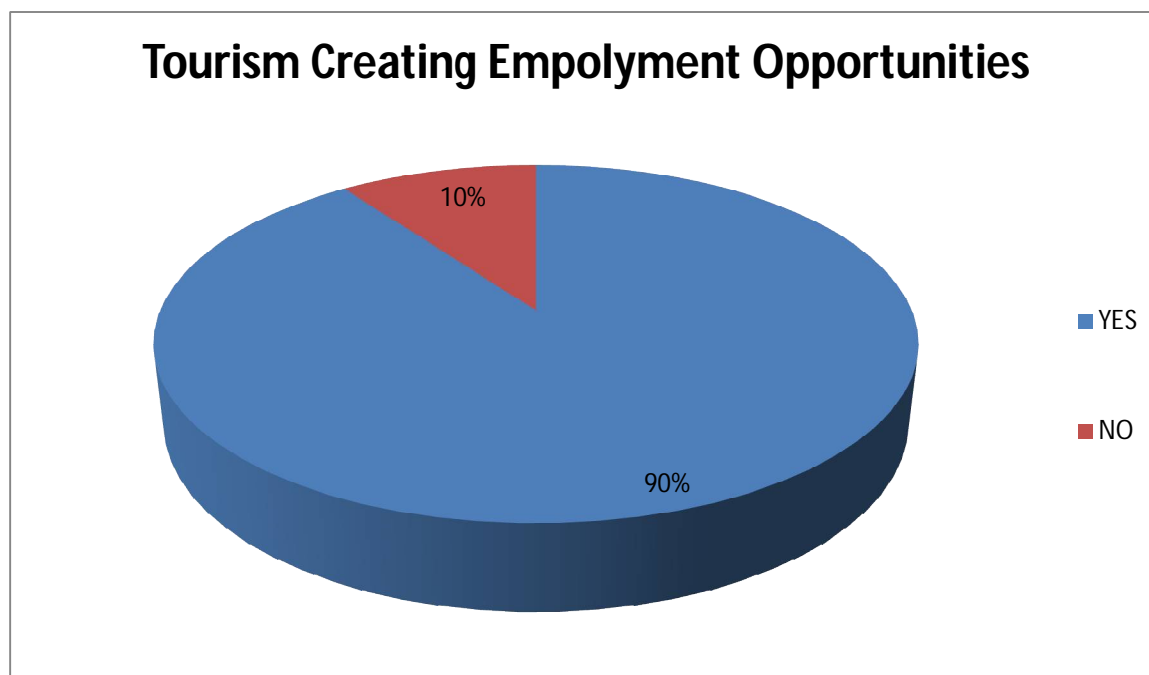
According to the pie-chart, out of the 18 sample HHs who had an idea about the term 'Ecotourism', 72.22% thought that the environment is helping to promote ecotourism and the remaining believed environment does not have any role in the promotion of ecotourism.

4.4 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of views about employment created by Ecotourism

As we know, tourism industry is also known as the industry of industry because it is connected with many sectors. In addition, many people are directly or indirectly engaged in this sector and benefited in many ways. All sorts of people such as skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled get a chance to earn something. The sample HHs were asked if employment opportunities were created in that locality by tourism activities and the answer can be seen in the bar diagram below

Figure No. 4.2

Tourism activities creating employment opportunities to the local people



Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the pie-chart, out of 40 sample HHs, 90% of them agreed that the local people got the employment because of tourism activities in their localities. In contrast, 10% thought it did not help to create any sort of job opportunities to the local people.

4.4.1 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of types of employment generated by the tourism activities

According to the above datas, we came to know that, 90% of the sample HHs believed that the tourim activities are creating the job opportunities such as porter, guide, shop owner, hotel owner, cook, waiter, etc to the local people.

Table No. 4.7

Types of Employment created by Tourism Activities

S.N.	Types of Job	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1	Porter	7	19.44
2	Guide	7	19.44
3	Related with Hotel (Owner, Cook, Waiter, etc)	15	41.67
4	Souvenir Shops	5	13.89
5	Others	2	5.55
	TOTAL	36	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, 41.67% sample HHs were engaged in job related with hotels such as cook, waiter, hotel owner, etc. In the same way, around 39% was equally shared by guides and porter. In addition, 13.89% were engaged in job related with souvenir shops and remaining 5.55% were doing other sort of jobs such as dish washers, barber, etc.

4.5 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of income per month

The income of a person and family depends upon the types of work he/she is doing. Meanwhile, the skill level also determines the amount of money to be earned. The per month earning of sample HHs is listed below

Table No. 4.8

Income per month of sample HHs

S.N.	Income per month (NRs.)	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1	Below 10,000	7	17.5
2	10,000-20,000	22	55
3	Above 20.000	11	27.5
	TOTAL	40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, out of the sample HHs, 55% had an average income between NRs. 10,000-20,000. In the same way, 27.5% earned above NRs. 20,000 and 17.5% of sample HHs income per month is below NRs. 10,000.

4.6 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of impacts of Ecotourism

As we know, everything has its own significance and drawbacks, tourism can't escape from this fact. In this section, we discuss about the positive and negative effects of ecotourism.

4.6.1 Positive Effects of Ecotourism

There are so many pros about the tourism industry. It provides various opportunities to the visited locality and community. The positive impacts of ecotourism found in the study area are listed below:

Table No. 4.9

Positive impacts of Ecotourism

S.N.	Good things about ecotourism	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	Local culture preserved and enhanced	5	12.5
2.	Protection of environment	9	22.5
3.	Income generation and employment opportunities	19	47.5
4.	Knowledge about various culture and people	3	7.5
5.	Others	4	10
	TOTAL	40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, 47.5% of the sample HHs thought there is increase in income generation and job opportunities. In the same way, 22.5% agreed environment is protected. Similarly, according to the 12.5% sample HHs, local culture was enhanced and preserved. Meanwhile, 7.5% HHs agreed that various people coming from all over the world gives them chance to know about different culture and people whereas, 10% sample HHs had different views such as tourism helps to provide advertisement about Nepal, awareness towards environment conservation, etc. Those HHs are categorized under ‘others’ heading.

4.6.2 Negative Effects of Ecotourism

As mentioned earlier, tourism has some drawbacks as well. The dark side of ecotourism found in the study area is listed below:

Table No. 4.10

Negative Impacts of Ecotourism

S.N.	Bad things about ecotourism	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	Following western culture (Degradation of local culture)	11	27.5
2.	Effects on foot trail leading to landslide	1	2.5
3.	High pricing in local commodities	13	32.5
4.	Degradation of environment	11	27.5
5.	Others	4	10
	TOTAL	40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The table demonstrates the negative impacts of ecotourism. Out of the 40 sample HHs, 32.5% HHs think because of ecotourism, the price of the local commodities is higher. In the same way, Youths following western culture that eventually leads to the degradation of local culture and degradation of environment, 27.5% each is believed to be another major drawback. Meanwhile, only 2.5% HHs agreed that ecotourism has effects on foot trail that leads to landslide. However, 10% HHs had different views such as effects on wildlife habitat, pollution, etc.

4.7 Distribution of sample HHs to know about the tourism planning in study area

Tourism industry is a very big industry and it is growing steadily all over the world. No matter whether a country is developed or not, every country is eager to bring the tourists. So in order to bring as much tourists as possible, certain planning and study is required. In the case of our country, we are very rich regarding the natural beauty. So, we need to do make proper plans and policies to make the greater flow of tourists in our country. There are certain tourism

planning organizations such as Nepal Tourism Board, Government of Nepal, etc. Active participation of local people is another important factor which should be kept in mind while making plans about tourism. In the study area, there are various programs launched to enhance tourism but the main thing to be noted is who are engaged in planning the tourism activities in the study area. The table below describes about this scenario in study area:

Table No. 4.11

Tourism planning in study area

S.N.	Planned by	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	Government	21	52.5
2.	Tourism Agencies	6	15
3.	Local People	7	17.5
4.	Others	6	15
	TOTAL	40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

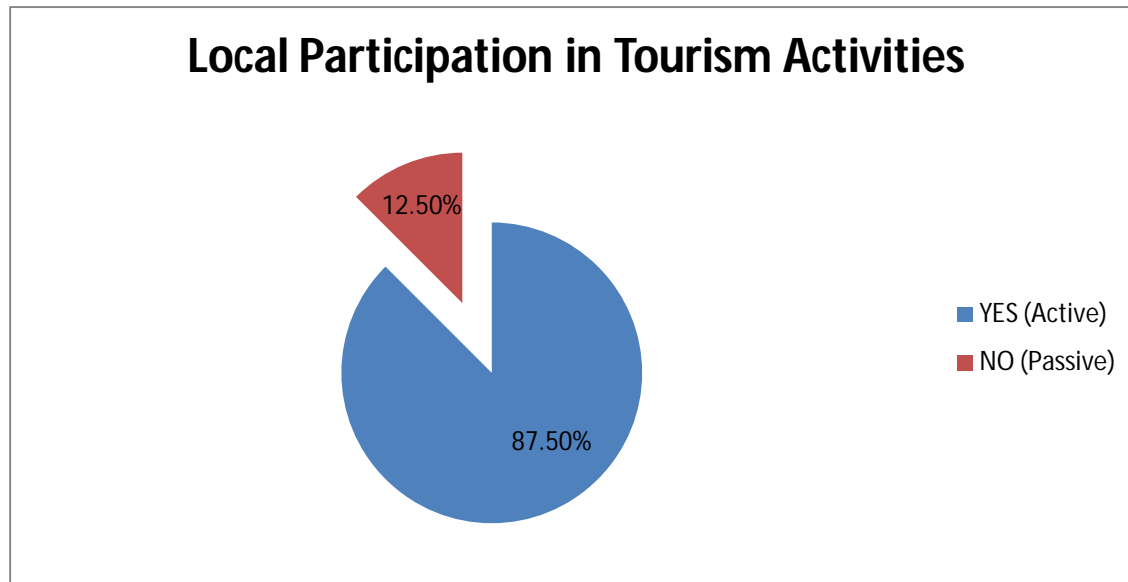
The table shows the tourism planning in the study area. It is seen that most of the planning (52.5%) is done by the government (VDC), as expected, because government launch various programs all over Nepal. In the same way, 17.5% sample HHs think that, local people are engaged in planning whereas, tourism agencies and others (local clubs, self help groups) contribute 15% in planning different types of activities to promote tourism in the study area.

4.8 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of local participation in tourism activities in the study area

The concept of local participation has great significance to make a project successful. Without the active participation of the local people, it is almost impossible to run a program for a

long time or make it worthy enough. The pie-chart below shows the participation of local people in the tourism activities in the study area:

Figure No. 4.3



Source:Field Survey, 2014

The figure describes the ratio of participation of local people in the tourism activities in the study area. According to the figure, 87.5% of the sample HHs have active participation in the tourism activities. In contrast, remaining 12.5% of the sample HHs do not take part in such tourism activities. It is very important the local bodies of the government such as VDCs, Municipalities, along with agencies related with tourism sector, motivate local people to take part in tourism activities.

4.8.1 Level of participation of local people in the tourism activities in the study area

As it is seen, most of the people (87.5%) are taking part in the tourism activities. Here, we discuss about the level of participation of those people:

Table No. 4.12

Level of Participation

S.N.	Participation in	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	Information giving	16	45.71
2.	Decision making	7	20
3.	Making plans and policies	10	28.57
4.	Others	2	5.72
	TOTAL	35	100%

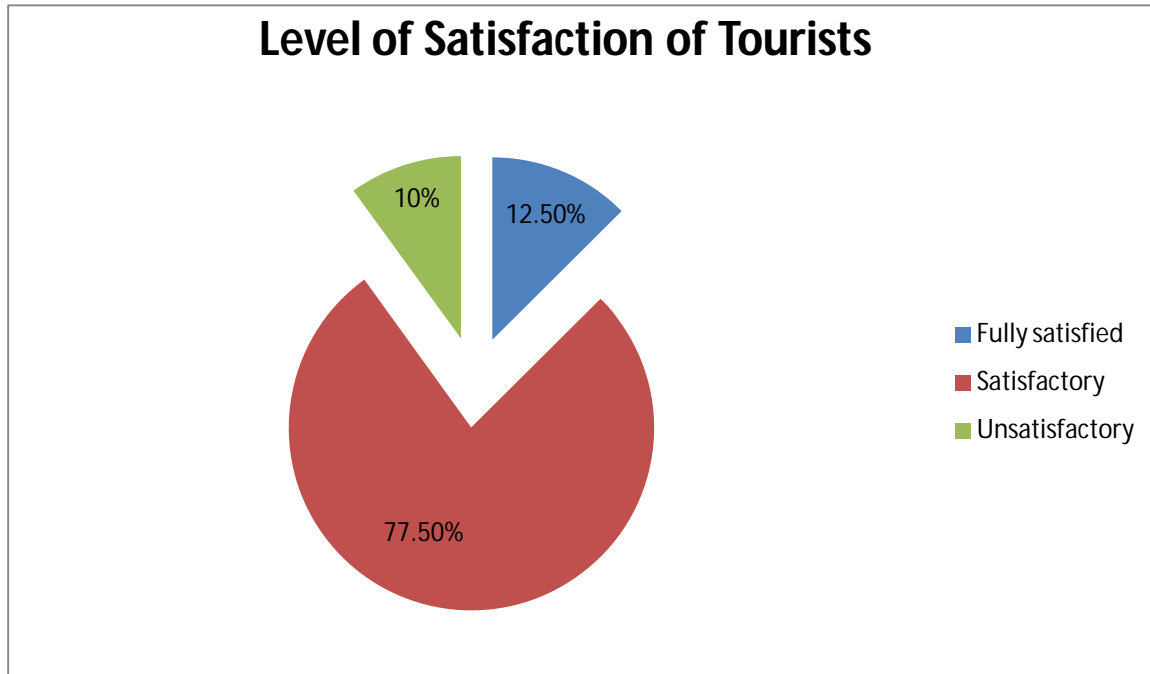
Source:Field Survey, 2014

This table shows the level of participation of the sample HHs in tourism activities. Most of the HHs (around 45%) is engaged in giving information about the various places, its importance, potential, etc. Similarly, 20% are involved in decision making process. Meanwhile, 258.57% of the HHs are making plans and policies to launch various programs in their locality to enhance tourism activities.

4.9 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of opinion about the satisfaction of tourists after visiting the study area

It is very important to know whether a tourist is satisfied or not after visiting a place. If a tourist is dis-satisfied then, we can ask them what were the reasons behind their dissatisfaction that will eventually lead for making the place better than before. The figure shows the tourist's satisfaction level after visiting the study area:

Figure No 4.4



Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the pie-chart, 77.5% of the tourists are found to be satisfied. However, 10% of the tourists were unsatisfied. Similarly, 12.5% were fully satisfied. There may be various factors leading to the dis-satisfaction of tourists such as lack of proper security, hotel facilities, toilet facilities, etc. So we must look forward to overcome such problems.

4.10 Distribution of sample HHs on the basis of opinion regarding the improvement of Ecotourism

Like a coin, every thing has two sides-brighter and darker. What we need to do is go through the darker side and try our level best to make it bright as much as possible. Same theory applies in this tourism industry as well. We need to find out the drawbacks and try to overcome such problems. In the study area, there were many drawbacks so the sample HHs were asked what can be done to solve those problems. Their views are listed below:

Table No. 4.13

Suggestions for improving ecotourism in the study area

S.N.	Suggestions	No. of HHs	Percentage (%)
1.	Protection of environment	11	27.5
2.	Improvement of foot trails	14	35
3.	Proper security	3	7.5
4.	Organizing various events	7	17.5
5.	Others	5	12.5
	TOTAL	40	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, 35% of the HHs believed the foot trails should be improved. In the same way, 27.5% gave their views towards the conservation of environment. Similarly, 17.5% of the sample HHs suggested organizing various events such as ‘Visit Godawari Programs’, home-stay programs, different festivals demonstrating local culture and practices, etc. Meanwhile, 7.5% believed that security should be properly managed in order to make the tourists feel secure wherever they go. In addition, remaining HHs had some different ideas such as making proper policies about ecotourism, advertisement, proper hotel facilities, toilet facilities, etc.

4.11 Distribution of sample tourists on the basis of their age, gender, country and occupation

Fifteen tourists were questioned in period of a month, five each time to make the most of the questions and to get rid of getting same answer. It was found that tourists from different age group, country, culture, occupation, etc were coming to the study area

4.11.1 Distribution of tourists according to their age

As we know, age level determines the interest of a people. The desire and needs of a child differs from the old people. Similarly, the perception and thinking level depends upon the age. The tourists of the study area were as follows:

Table No. 4.14

Age group of tourists

S.N.	Age group	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Below 25	3	20
2.	25-35	3	20
3.	35-45	4	26.67
4.	45+	5	33.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The table shows that most of the tourists (33.33%) are more than 45 years of age. In the same way, second highest age group is 35-45 years comprising 26.67%. Similarly, below 25 years and 25-35 years age group consists of 20% each. So it is seen that, most of the tourists are above 35 years old.

4.11.2 Distribution of tourists according to their country

Tourists, from all over the world come to visit our country for different purposes. In the study area, the main reason is trekking, for getting pleasure, etc. The name of the country of the tourists coming to visit the study area as follows:

Table No. 4.15

Country of the tourists

S.N.	Name of the country	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Australia	3	20
2.	China	4	26.67
3.	France	3	20
4.	Germany	2	13.33
5.	USA	3	20
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

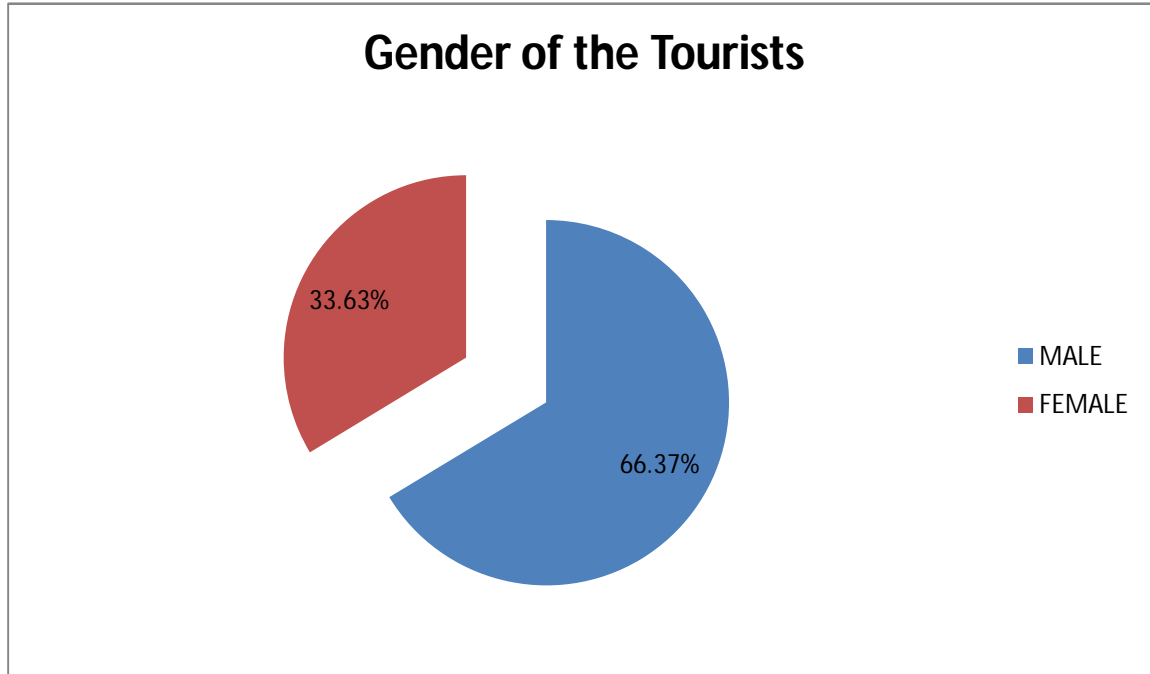
The table shows that the name of the country of the tourists visiting the study area. According to the table, most of the tourists are from China comprising 26.67% of the total tourists. Similarly, Australia, France and USA share 60% equally. The least number of tourists is from Germany (13.33%)

. 4.11.3 Distribution of tourists according to their gender

Normally, it is found that the number of male tourists is more than that of the female numbers which can be seen in the study area as well.

Figure No. 4.5

Gender of the tourists



Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the figure, most of the tourists were male and the remaining 33.63% were female.

4.11.4 Distribution of tourists according to their occupation

Occupation is another major factor to determine the perception of a people. The types of job done by a people will have a great influence in their lives. The types of the occupation of the tourists coming in the study area is as follows:

Table No. 4.16

Occupation of the tourists

S.N.	Occupation of tourists	No. of tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Student	3	20
2.	Service/Job	7	46.67
3.	Business	5	33.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, most of the tourists (46.67%) are engaged in different kinds of service such as teacher, government job holder, ticketing officer, etc. In the same way, 33.33% of the tourists have their own business like restaurants, agriculture, farming, factories and the remaining are the students.

4.12 Distribution of the sample tourists on the basis of number of visits to the study area

Because of the natural beauty of our country, many tourists come quite often. They bring friends and family with them in their next visit. In the study area also, it was found that tourists were coming more than once, the precise data is shown below:

Table No. 4.17

No. of visits of tourists in the study area

S.N.	No. of Visits	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	First time	11	73.33
2.	Second time	4	26.67

	TOTAL	15	100%
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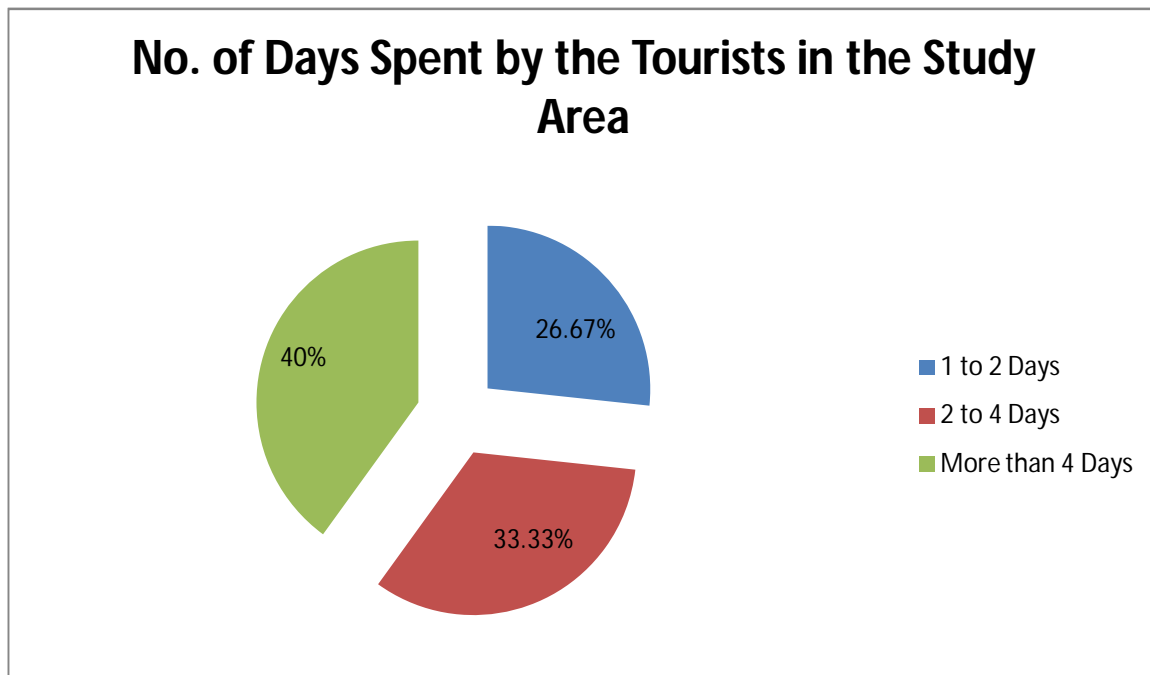
Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, most of the tourists (73.33%) were visiting the study area for the first time. However, remaining 26.67% were in their second visit. So, we must try to make the tourists fully satisfied so that they will come again and again.

4.13 Distribution of the sample tourists on the basis of the total number of days of their stay

The more a tourist, stays in the study area, the more, people of that area will earn. So, the days spent is directly proportional to the income and other economic benefits. The number of days spent in the study area by the tourists is listed below:

Figure No. 4.6



Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the figure, 40% of the tourists are staying for a period of more than 4 days. They are certainly coming for trekking purpose. In the same way, 33.33% stayed for 2 to 4 days. Remaining 26.67% of the tourists are staying for 1 to 2 days.

4.14 Distribution of the sample tourists on the basis of purpose of their visit

The choice of a people varies from another, depending upon their interest, liking, perceptions, etc. Even though lots of tourists visit a same place but their main purpose may differ from one another. The distribution of tourists depending upon the purpose of their visit in the study area is listed below:

Table No. 4.18

Distribution of tourists according to their purpose

S.N.	Purpose of visit	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Sightseeing	3	20
2.	Entertainment	3	20
3.	Study/Research	1	6.67
4.	Trekking	6	40
5.	Others	2	13.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, most of the tourists (40%) are coming for trekking. In the same way, other tourists are coming for sightseeing and entertainment (20% each). In addition, 6.67%

were found to come in the study area for doing research and study and the remaining 13.37% came to the study area for shooting a documentary which is listed in the “others” heading.

4.15 Distribution of the sample tourists according to understanding of the term ‘Ecotourism’

As we know, tourism is a very big industry and it has a great history behind it but the concept of ecotourism is being heard since a decade or two. Actually, ecotourism is for the conscious people. It is exploring nature without causing any harm to it. In the study area, the tourists were asked what ecotourism is, the answers are listed below:

Table No. 4.19

Distribution of the tourists according to the meaning of ecotourism

S.N.	Meaning of ecotourism	No of tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Visit remote, uncrowded and unspoiled nature	2	13.33
2.	Exploring new culture and lifestyle	4	26.67
3.	Taking only photographs and leaving only footprints	7	46.67
4.	Economic benefits to the local people and community	2	13.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, most of the tourists (46.67%) gave their view about ecotourism as taking only photographs and leaving only footprints. Similarly, 26.67% of the tourists thought it is exploring new culture and lifestyle. Out of the remaining 26.66%, half of them agreed it is giving economic benefits to the local people and community and the next half thinks it is visiting remote, un-crowded and unspoiled nature.

4.16 Distribution of the sample tourists on the basis of their view about the main attractions of the study area

The study area comprises of various attracting factors such as pleasant weather, foot-trail required for trekking, beautiful scenery, local culture and hospitality of the local people, etc. The table below shows the view of the tourists:

Table No. 4.20

Main attraction of the study area

S.N.	Main Attraction	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1	Beautiful and Natural Scenery	3	20
2.	Trekking	6	40
3.	Pleasant Weather and Environment	3	20
4.	Local Culture	1	6.67
5.	Hospitality of the Local People	2	13.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, trekking was the most attractive thing in the study area for 40% tourists. Similarly, pleasant weather and beautiful and natural scenery (20% each) were main attraction for them. In addition, 13.33% tourists were fascinated by the hospitality of the local people and remaining 6.67% tourists loved the local culture and lifestyle.

4.17 Distributions of the tourists according to the products bought made from wildlife and timber

As said earlier, ecotourism is for conscious people. It means not to harm anything and anyone. So, buying the products made from wildlife and timber is not going to help ecotourism. In the study area, tourists were asked if they bought the products made from it, the answers are in the following table:

Table No. 4.21

Tourists buying products made from wildlife and timber

S.N.	Products Bought	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Yes	2	13.33
2.	No	13	86.67
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The above table shows that most of the tourists were conscious about not buying the products made from timber and wildlife. In contrast, remaining 13.37% bought the products. So, we must launch awareness programs to make everyone aware of not buying and selling the products of timber and wildlife.

4.18 Distributions of the sample tourists according to their view about the facilities in the study area

The value of 3A's (Amenity, Attraction and Accommodation) is very high in the field of tourism. Amenities are the services that are required to meet the needs of tourists while they are away from home. They include public toilets, signage, retail shopping, restaurants and cafes, visitor centers, telecommunications and emergency services. Because many of the amenities are government services delivered by local, state and national agencies, a high degree of co-

operation is needed, particularly where tourist services may be seen to be competing with the needs of local residents. In the study area, the view about the different facilities is listed below:

Table No. 4.22

View of the tourists regarding the facilities of the study area

S.N.	Facilities	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Bad	TOTAL
1.	Roadways/Transportation	0	7	6	2	15
2.	Trail ways	2	5	7	1	15
3.	Hospitality of the people	5	5	4	1	15
4.	Security	0	4	8	3	15
5.	Cleanliness	0	12	2	1	15

Source:Field Survey, 2014

According to the table, most of the tourists thought that the different types of facilities such as roadways and transportation, trail ways, hospitality of the local people, security, cleanliness, etc were satisfactory. However, some gave different views and were not satisfied with those facilities. So, the stakeholders of study area should look forward to overcome such issues and try to make the tourists fully satisfied in the coming days.

4.19 Distribution of the sample tourists on the basis of the Problems of the study area

It is an undeniable fact that everything has bright and dark side. In the study area, there are so many positive things which invite tourists to visit again and again. Despite having such wonderful pulling factors, it has some of the problems as well. Some of the problems according to the tourists are as follows:

Table No. 4.23

Problems of tourism in the study area

S.N.	Problems	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Lack of proper sanitation	3	20
2.	Lack of proper security	4	26.67
3.	Lack of information in the foot trails	6	40
4.	Lack of proper transportation facilities	2	13.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The table shows that, 40% of the tourists were worried about the lack of information in the trail ways which caused confusions in the trekking zone. Similarly, 26.67% agreed that there was no proper security. In addition, 20% of the tourists did not like the sanitation and the remaining 13.33% were bothered by the transportation facilities.

4.20 Distributions of the sample tourists on the basis of the suggestions given to improve the study area

Earlier we knew about the various drawbacks about the study area so we must look forward to solve those issues. There can be various way of solving those issue, however, the suggestions given by the tourists in the study area can be more important as we want to provide utmost care and facilities to them.

Table No. 4.24

Suggestions to improve ecotourism in the study area

S.N.	Suggestions	No. of Tourists	Percentage (%)
1.	Proper security	3	20
2.	Improved sanitation	3	20
3.	Increased information in the foot trails	5	33.34
4.	Increased transportation facilities	2	13.33
5.	Organizing various events	2	13.33
	TOTAL	15	100%

Source:Field Survey, 2014

The table demonstrates the suggestion given by the tourists to improve the various sectors of the study area. Most of the tourists (33.34%) were eager to make foot trails and trekking more clear as there are very few signs and information about the foot trails. In the same way, 40% tourists were concerned about making proper security and improved sanitation equally. Similarly, remaining suggested improving transportation facilities and organizing various programs and proper advertisement.

CHAPTER - FIVE

MAJOR FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 Major Findings

Following are some of the highlights of the key findings:

- Godawari VDC of Lalitpur district is the study area.
- The VDC has 1825 households with total population 7558, male 3715 and female 3843.
- It is found that households of the study area are being benefitted from the ecotourism.
- This study has 30 HHs and they were selected on the basis of random sampling method and 10 shops of the foot trails were selected by lottery method. So, the total number of sample taken of the local HHs was 40.
- The total population of sample households is 217, male 106 (48.85%) and female 111 (51.15%).
- In the study area average HHs size is found to be 5.42.
- Highest no of households in the study area are Tamang (42.5%) followed by Newar (30%).
- The average literacy rate of sample HHs is 70.51%, Male literacy 79.25% and female literacy rate 62.16%.
- Major occupation of the sample HHs is Agriculture 42.5%, business/factories 25%, and service/jobs 22.5%.
- It is found that 45% of the sample HHs have knowledge about ecotourism.
- Out of those 45% of the sample HHs, 38.89% think experiencing remote, un-crowded and unspoiled nature is ecotourism, 33.33% think ecotourism means making economic benefits to the local community.
- Out of the total sample HHs, 72.22% of the HHs thinks environment plays a decisive role in the promotion of ecotourism.
- In this research 90% of the sample HHs believes employment opportunities are being created by ecotourism.

- Out of the different employment opportunities, 41.67% of sample HHs are engaged in hotel such as hotel owner, cook, waiter, dish washer, etc, 20% are doing work as Porter and 20% as Guide.
- It is concluded 55% of the Sample HHs believed that the monthly income is NRs. 10,000-20,000 and 27.5% agreed their income is above NRs. 20,000 per month because of ecotourism.
- This study shows, 47.5% of the sample HHs agreed that income generation and employment opportunities are the positive impacts of ecotourism and 22.5% agreed about the protection of environment.
- When it comes to negative impacts, 32.5% of the sample HHs believed that high pricing and 27.5% HHs agreed degradation of environment is the negative impacts of ecotourism.
- All sample HHs believed that 52.5% tourism planning in the area is done by Government, 17.5% by local people and 15% by different travel agencies.
- Local participation of the sample HHs in the tourism activities in the study area was found 87.5%.
- Out of 40 HHs, 45.71% of the sample HHs are engaged in information giving and 28.57% in making plans and policies.
- Sample HHs believed that 77.5% of tourist's satisfaction level was satisfactory and 12.5% HHs thought tourists were fully satisfied.
- This study portrays, 35% of the sample HHs thinks foot trails should be improved and 27.5% assume that the protection of environment is needed to improve ecotourism in the study area.
- When it comes to sampling of tourists, 5 tourists were chosen at once in 3 different time intervals, so the total number of sample tourists is 15.
- Out of the sample tourists, 33.33% of them were above 45 years of age and 26.67% were between 35-45 years age.
- It is found that 26.67% of the sample tourists were from China, 20% each from Australia, France, USA and 13.33% from Germany.
- Male sample tourists were of 66.37% and remaining 33.63% were female.

- Mostly the sample HHs of the study area were engaged in service/jobs that is of 46.67% followed by business 33%.
- In this study, 73.33% of the sample tourists were making their first visit to the study area however, 26.67% tourists were visiting for the second time.
- It is found that 40% of the sample tourists were staying for more than 4 days, 33.33% for 2 to 4 days and 26.67% for 1 to 2 days.
- Out of 15 sample tourists, 46.67% of them think taking only photographs and leaving only footprints is ecotourism meanwhile, 26.67% believe exploring new culture is ecotourism.
- Trekking was the main purpose of visit of 40% sample tourists. In contrast, other tourists think beautiful and natural scenery as well as pleasant weather and environment (20% each) are the major attractions.
- Sample tourists agreed that 13.33% of them bought products made from timber and wildlife meanwhile; remaining 86.67% tourists did not buy those products.
- In the case of problems, 40% of the sample tourists agreed about the lack of proper information, sign and symbols in the foot trails is the major problems of this area; however, 26.67% opted to go for lack of proper security.
- Out of 15 sample tourists, 33.34% of them suggested to increase the information, sign and symbols in the trekking zone and foot trails. 20% suggested to improve sanitation and another 20% tourists gave advice for proper security.

5.2 Conclusion

The trend of tourists coming to Nepal for doing various tourism activities has been increasing day by day. We discussed some of the reasons why tourists from all over the world come to our country but whatever might be the reason, tourism has been seen as a backbone to the Nepalese economy in recent time and there has been substantial growth of tourism economy. The contribution of ecotourism is increasing yearly. If this present trend continues, it is speculated that tourism economy will substitute many other sectors of the economy in the coming years.

Ecotourism has been seen as a lethal weapon encountering poverty because it has great positive impacts in many aspects of people's life. Ecotourism generally improve the standard of living of the recipient families, increase household income and allow the head of the household to allocate more resources to providing food, accessing health services and education for the children and improving the house itself. For example, the average amount received by a household can be superior to GDP per capita. This is significant considering that only a small percentage of rural inhabitants earn incomes equivalent to per capita GDP.

The study shows that the present socio-cultural aspect of tourism has brought lots of positives to all types of people like skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled. It has created employment opportunities and income generation possibilities. The economic status of the people has been improved significantly. People have more spending power as a result there is increment in the number of school and college going students, similarly people are more conscious about their health and are going for a regular health check-up. Rural people are engaged in festivals and jatras so that there is regular interaction between the family members and society which leads to the strong bond of brotherhood and harmony. Despite a low level of "productive investments," the multiplier effect of ecotourism on local economies is noteworthy, especially if they are spent locally.

As a whole, ecotourism seems very good for the developing countries but certain things are needed to be sort out. There is increment in social evils in the society like following western culture, high pricing of the local commodities, environmental degradation, effects on foot trails which can eventually lead to landslide, etc so, these things are to be focused. Similarly, proper

trainings and language skills should be provided to the local people so that they can communicate with the tourists easily. In the same way, money received should be used in income generating activities so that the local people can have employment opportunities and cash flow in their households.

Money received from the tourists has been an automatic instrument for poverty reduction in Nepal. Ecotourism has been recognized as a key to solve various economic ills afflicting the country. Moreover, it has raised some obvious questions. For instance, long the national economy can solely depend on the source of tourism to sustain itself? Is it possible to use the money of tourists to improve social livelihood of the Nepali people or, can it be used in more productive sector? Can our policymakers think beyond the box of tourism economy?

At the end, it can be concluded that the economic and socio-cultural condition of all the families who have involved in tourism activities have increased. There is positive change in the status of the environment and people are more conscious about their culture and place due to ecotourism. Therefore we can say that ecotourism is playing very vital role in reducing the poverty level of the study area. In addition, people are looking forward to save the nature which in return, will save them.

5.3 Recommendations

As already mentioned above, the ecotourism can be one of the very good options for encountering poverty and saving environment in the present time. Based on the studies, following recommendations are made for its wider applications throughout the nation.

A) Policy Level

- 1) Government should make new policy about ecotourism to identify new potential destinations and create opportunities to the local people and communities.
- 2) Dealing with both prospects and challenges of ecotourism, the country needs a rationally designed and improved institutional framework.
- 3) Government should also think of channeling the income of ecotourism towards more effective poverty reduction and rural development outcomes.

- 4) Effective monitoring and evaluation of travel agencies should be done on regular basis.
- 5) There must be provision of rewarding and giving punishment to good and fake travel agencies and companies.
- 6) Various programs to raise awareness about ecotourism should be launched. Medias such as newspaper, television, radio, internet, banners, etc can be used.
- 7) Government can announce and launch programs like Visit Nepal and do proper advertising worldwide.
- 8) Ministry level agreements can be done to assure the security and safety of the tourists coming in Nepal.

Others

- 1) Maximum part of the income coming from ecotourism have been used in unproductive sectors like regular household expenses, loan payment, house improvement and social spending etc. this don't give any return in the future. Thus the policy should be made and social awareness should be provided to give more information to the respondents on using their income into productive and income generating sectors like investment in Shares, Business, Agriculture, etc.
- 2) There must be good facilities for the tourists in the destination areas such as proper transportation and roadways, proper security, improved sanitation, proper information, signs and symbols in the foot trails.
- 3) Local people should be polite to the tourists.
- 4) Clubs and self help groups should encourage local people to conserve the natural resources.
- 5) To benefit from the tourism we need to increase the visibility for international and domestic tourism so advertisement needs to be made more effective likewise souvenir shops needs to be encouraged which helps to generate the income source.
- 6) Bee keeping, animal husbandry etc needs to be made more effective so even tourist can enjoy these natural and organic method of agriculture.

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ROLE OF ECO-TOURISM FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NEPA

A Case Study of Godawari VDC of Lalitpur District

Questionnaire:

➤ *FOR THE LOCAL PEOPLE*

- Household owner name: Mr./Ms./Mrs.
- Household size: 1. Male..... 2. Female.....
- Literate: 1. Male..... 2. Female.....
- Illiterate: 1. Male..... 2. Female.....
- Occupation:
 1. Agriculture.....
 2. Job/Service.....
 3. Business.....
 4. Others (specify).....
- Do you have knowledge about Ecotourism 1. Yes..... 2. No.....
- If yes, what do you understand by the term “Ecotourism”?
 1. Experiencing remote, un-crowded and unspoiled nature.....
 2. Increasing wildlife knowledge.....
 3. Interaction with native people.....
 4. Economic benefits to local community.....
 5. Taking only photographs and leaving only footprints.....
- What sort of role environment play in the promotion of ecotourism?
 1. Good role.....
 2. No role.....
- Has ecotourism increased the employment opportunities in the study area?
 1. Yes....
 2. No.....
- If yes, what types of job opportunities has been created?
 1. Porter.....
 2. Guide.....
 3. Related with hotels (Owner, Cook, Waiter, etc).....
 4. Souvenir Shops.....
 5. Others (specify).....
- How much do you earn monthly because of tourism activities?
 1. Below NRs. 10,000.....
 2. NRs. 10,000-20,000.....
 3. Above NRs. 20,000.....
- In your view, what are the positive impacts of ecotourism in the study area?
 1. Local culture preserved and enhanced.....
 2. Protection of environment.....

3. Income generation and employment opportunities.....
 4. Knowledge about various culture and people.....
 5. Others (specify).....
- In your view, what are the negative impacts of ecotourism in the study area?
 1. Following western culture (Degradation of local culture).....
 2. Effects on foot trail leading to landslide.....
 3. High pricing in local commodities.....
 4. Degradation of environment
 5. Others (specify).....
 - Who plans the tourism events and activities in your area?
 1. Local people.....
 2. Tourism Agencies.....
 3. Government (VDC).....
 4. Others (specify).....
 - Do the local people participate in the tourism activities of your area?
 1. Yes/Active participation.....
 2. No/Passive.....
 - If yes, what is the level of participation?
 1. Participation in Information giving.....
 2. Participation in decision making.....
 3. Participation in making plans and policies.....
 4. Others (specify).....
 - What is your opinion about the satisfaction of tourists after visiting the study area?
 1. Fully satisfied.....
 2. Satisfactory.....
 3. Un-satisfactory.....
 - What are your suggestions for improving ecotourism in your area?
 1. Protection of environment.....
 2. Improvement of foot trails.....
 3. Proper security.....
 4. Organizing various events.....
 5. Others (specify).....

➤ **FOR THE TOURISTS**

- Name of the tourist.....
- Age.....
- Gender: 1. Male 2. Female.....
- Nationality.....
- Occupation:
 1. Student.....
 2. Job/Service.....
 3. Business.....
 4. Others (specify).....
- Number of visits to the study area:
 1. First time.....
 2. Second time.....
 3. More than two times.....
- How many days do you think, you will stay here?
 1. 1-2 days.....
 2. 2 to 4 days.....
 3. More than 4 days.....
- What is the main purpose of your visit?
 1. Sightseeing.....
 2. Entertainment.....
 3. Study/Research.....
 4. Trekking.....
 5. Others (specify).....
- What do you understand by the term 'Ecotourism'?
 1. Visit remote, un-crowded and unspoiled nature.....
 2. Exploring new culture and lifestyle.....
 3. Taking only photographs and leaving only footprints.....
 4. Economic benefits to the local people and community.....
- In your view, what are the main attractions of the study area?
 1. Beautiful and Natural Scenery.....
 2. Trekking.....
 3. Pleasant Weather and Environment.....
 4. Local Culture.....
 5. Hospitality of the Local People.....
- Did you buy the products made from timber and wildlife?
 1. Yes....
 2. No....

- How do you evaluate the following facilities of the study area?

S.N.	Facilities	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Bad
1.	Roadways/Transportation				
2.	Trail ways				
3.	Hospitality of the people				
4.	Security				
5.	Cleanliness				

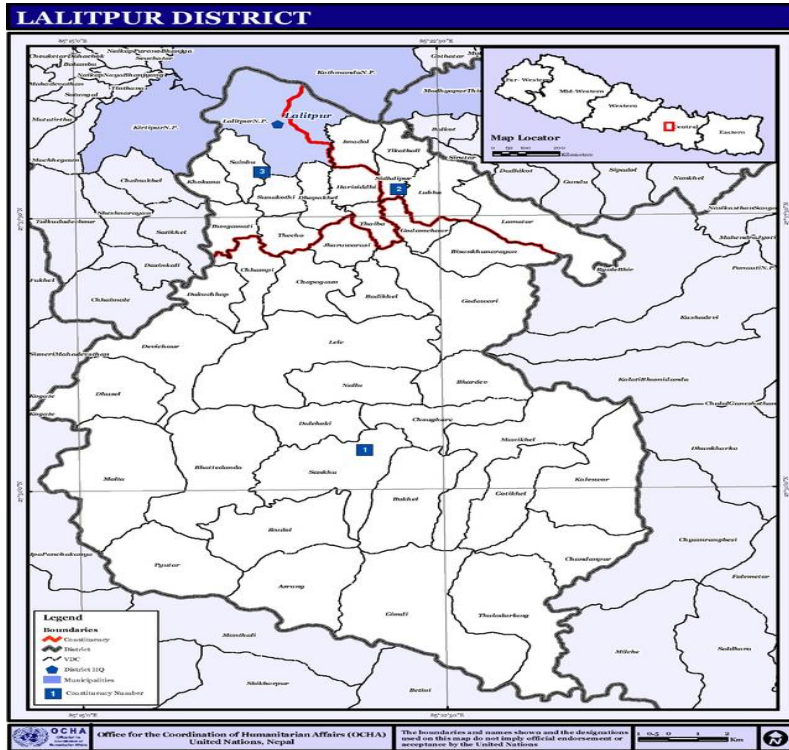
- In your opinion what are the drawbacks of the study area?
 1. Lack of proper sanitation.....
 2. Lack of proper security.....
 3. Lack of information in the foot trails.....
 4. Lack of proper transportation facilities....

- What are your suggestions to improve ecotourism in the study area?
 1. Organizing various events.....
 2. Proper security.....
 3. Improved sanitation.....
 4. Increased information in the foot trails.....
 5. Increased transportation facilities

Photo Annex

Map of Nepal





Map Of Godavari VDC



Special thanks to Ms.Radha Silwal(person on the Middle of below photo) for helping us gather the information from Household



Photos taken during interview with local community



