IMPACT OF CABLE CAR IN LIVELIHOOD OF LOCAL PEOPLE: A CASE STUDY OF MANAKAMANA TREKKING ROUTE, NEPAL

A Thesis

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RECOMMENDATION

This Thesis entitled "Impact of Cable Car in Livelihood of Local People: A Case Study of Manakamana Trekking Route, Nepal" has been completed by Gyanu K Sharma under my guidance and supervision for the partial fulfilment of the requirement for the award of the degree of Master of arts in Rural Development. I hereby recommend this thesis for its final evaluation and approval.

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Abstract

This study has analysed several impacts of Manakamana cable car on the livelihood strategy of the local people of Manakamana-Aambukhaireni trekking route and its vicinity after the cable car construction. Directly or indirectly, local people had adopted several tourism activities to sustain their livelihood. But, when MCC established in 1998, in this old so called trekking route tourists and pilgrims became less. Gradually, all the tourism activities of old trekking route collapsed and the place became isolated and deserted. They have been forced and compelled to return to one and only agricultural activity, which was their old livelihood strategy.

Before the construction of MCC, in Manakamana, Aambukhaireni trekking route, large numbers of local people performed the activities like agriculture, animal husbandry, wage labour, horticulture etc. but they were almost tourism oriented. After the construction of MCC, these sorts of activities have been reduced significantly. The production of major crops and business activities has been reduced after the construction of MCC. The major causes are low investment in agriculture and decline in tourism related activities.

Likewise, the numbers of major domestic animal as well as their production have been reduced after the construction of MCC. Similarly, fruit production has been declined and whatever the local people would produce it would not get the proper market and reasonable price. Employment opportunities for the local people in the hotel, lodge, restaurant, teashop, souvenir shop etc. were also missing due to the MCC. MCC had made an agreement with local people to give high priority in employment. But, only five local personals have got the job in MCC. Those who were involved in tourism-oriented activities like porter, businessman, tourist guide, handicraft maker and seller, fruit seller etc. have lost their employment opportunities and their livelihood options were totally collapsed. MCC has brought social conflicts and evils in the study area with the increasing number of tourist.

MCC is a beautiful example of modern technology. It is very popular, wide spread, well accepted as well as suitable means of transportation for a country like Nepal. Obviously, MCC has a great support and contribution for the economic development of nation as well as the local area. But, sometimes modern technology can have negative impacts and the people will have to suffer. MCC is a very good and suitable example of modern technology that has brought several negative impacts to local marginalized and poor of Manakamana-Aambukhaireni trekking route and its vicinity.

Abbreviation

⁰c Degree centigrade

CBS Central Bureau of Statistics

CEDA Centre for Economic Development and Administration
DFID Decentralized Fund for International Development

e.g. For example

Et.al. Et Alii, aliae or alia (Latin word) and others

Etc. ET cetrera (Latin word) and so forth

Fig. Figure Geog. Geography

GIS Geographic Information System

HH Household

HMG/N His Majesty Government of Nepal

Ibid Ibiden (cited just before)

ICIMOD International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

i.e. That is Kilometer

Km² Square kilometer KTM Kathmandu no. Number

op.cit. Opere Citato (in the work cited)

p. Pagepp. PagesProf. ProfessorPvt Private

SAARC South Asia Association for Regional Cooperation

T.U. Tribhuvan University

VDC Village Development Committee

vol(s) Volume(s)

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