



Original Research Paper

Use of AHP based Weighted Analysis for Impact Assessment of Coastal Tourism in Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra (India): Respondents' Point of View

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Abstract

The MCDM-AHP technique was used for impact assessment of tourism on socioeconomic development in the coastal area with respondents' point of view. The responses from native people were recorded using questionnaires through interviews about selected nine criteria including accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care facilities, business, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, and immovable properties. The literature review, fieldwork and experts' opinions are fundamental keys to select the criteria and determination of ranks. About 35.55% respondents reported higher impact of tourism, 29.14% respondents informed moderate impact, 25.69% respondents reported less impact and 9.62% respondents reported very less impact of tourism activities on development in the region. The development of reported criteria varies according the beach area and relative location of the beaches on the shoreline. The beaches located far south and away from district headquarter show relatively less development. The focus of investment should be concentrated on development of the accessibility and connectivity, required amenities, health care facilities, small-scale business, employability, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries to improve the tourism activities for improving standard of living of native people in the region. The methodology, techniques and results achieved in this study can be useful for planning and monitoring the tourism activities for sustainable and uniform development in the similar areas.

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1 INTRODUCTION

Tourism is the dynamic and largest (Stanchev *et al.*, 2015) apparatus of economic development (Garcia and Fernandez, 2018), globally (Nunes *et al.*, 2020). The process of commercial tourism development creates numeral welfares in the economy. Heritage tourism and ecotourism are important streams of tourism activities (Franco *et al.*, 2019). Moreover, tourism helps to grow

the nation-wide revenue, offers employment opportunities to youths, rises the incomes from foreign currencies, increases community integration and cultural uniformity, etc. (Selim *et al.*, 2021). Tourism industry makes able the affordable services to native people and sometimes these activities are supportive for environment preservation (Rio and Nunes, 2012).

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The coastal tourism is an active and unique fast growing industry supportive to expanse the economic activities at regional level (Chen, 2010; Navale and Bhagat, 2021; Nunes *et al.*, 2020). Beaches and coastal zones are important resources for leisure industry, build potential valued economic supports to tourist and furthestmost significant tourist terminuses (Botero *et al.*, 2014; Stanchev *et al.*, 2015; Chen and Bau, 2016; Navale and Bhagat, 2021). Attraction points of tourist in the coastal region are sandy beaches, rocky platforms, sea cliff, creeks, caves, ocean water, mangrove forestry, maritime biodiversity, artistic and historic places as well as sceneries (Stanchev *et al.*, 2015; Cletus *et al.*, 2015; Semeoshenkova *et al.*, 2016; Navale and Bhagat, 2021). However, the tourism activities negatively affect the natural environment including geology, physical features, soils, water, flora-fauna, etc. It also affects negatively the economy of native people, socio-cultural setup (Hacia, 2018). The socioeconomic parameters in particular region are directly affects the health and wealth of citizens and number of visitors decreases. Thus, widely reported impact of coastal tourism is degradation of coastal ecosystems including beaches and wet lands, deforestation and erosion, excess use and increased pressure on limited energy and freshwater resources, ecological disruption and degradation of biological diversity, pollution and waste generations, resource use conflict and threats to native people for their culture and traditions (UNWTO-1994). Therefore, the researchers like Lemos *et al.* (2011), Liu and Wall (2006) and Thakur *et al.* (2020) have suggested the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of tourism activities since 1990 for resolving the complications connected to degradation of coastline environment and encouraging the tourism activities. The impact assessment of socioeconomic parameters of coastal tourism is helpful for sustainable development and resource conservation in the coastal area (Batman, 2019; Ronizi *et al.*, 2020; Navale and Bhagat, 2021). Thus, tourism activities are negatively affecting the environmental aspects such as soil, forest, surface- and ground-water. Therefore, many organizations have recommended different strategies for EIA [Environment Impact Assessment] for implementation of planning and monitoring for sustainable tourism development (Kriwoken and Rootes, 2000; Geneletti and Dawa, 2009; Lemos *et al.*, 2011; Li *et al.*, 2014). The coastal zone of Ratnagiri district shows less accessibility and connectivity, lack of health care facilities, insufficient basic amenities and infrastructures, lack of awareness of beach potential and inadequate administration support to coastal tourism (Singh *et al.*, 2021). Tourism is unique, significant and rising active business plays significant role in revenue generation at local, regional and national level. Therefore, the impact assessment for coastal tourism in view of respondent performed to understand

the role of tourism in socioeconomic development for planning, management and monitoring the tourism activities in the coastal region of Ratnagiri district in Maharashtra (India) (Ronizi, 2020; Navale and Bhagat, 2021).

2 STUDY AREA

Coastal zone of Ratnagiri district (2989 km²) is the part of 'Kokan' region of Maharashtra (India) extents between 16°29' 32" and 18°01' 16"N and 73°01'43" and 73°31'24"E with Sahyadri ridges at East and Arabian Sea at West. It is narrow strip with 10-15 km width and 173 km length (Figure 1). Major rivers are originating in the Sahyadri ranges and flow towards West to Arabian Sea. Vasishti is the major river flowing across Guhagar, Dapoli, Chiplun and Ratnagiri tahsils and significant for water supply for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes. Temperature ranges from 25°C to 34°C with average of 31.3°C and yearly differences from 25.1°C in January and 28.8°C in May. The average rainfall is 3118mm with maximum in Mandangad tahsil (3500mm) located in western foothill area of Sayhadri. However, the rainfall along the shoreline is between 2500 to 3200mm. Mango is a major fruit observed in Ratnagiri district on laterite soils. Similarly, the alluvial soil is observed in adjacent area to the coast and suitable for the coconut plantation. Fishery is main occupation of native people of coastal zone in Ratnagiri district. The population is 679862 (2011) with distribution of 318702 males and 361160 females. The population density is 230 person/km² (2011) with 71.35 % literacy.

The sex ratio is significantly more (1133 female/ 1000 male) compared to state of Maharashtra (922 female/1000 male) in 2011. The working population is 72.86% with marginal works (26.65%) and total working population (46.54%). The linear type of settlement pattern is observed in the region. The Marathi and Kokani are main spoken languages. The morphological features like beaches (Ganpatipule, Kelshi, Anjarle, Are Ware, Malgund, Madban, Guhagar, Velas, Hedavi, Ambolgarh, etc.), cliffs (Kolthare, Velneshwar, Jaygad), headlands (Anjarle, Budal, Kolthare, Velneshwar, Jagarh, Guhagar, Mirya, Kalbadevi, Borya), creeks (Kalbadevi Creek, Bhatye Creek, Purnagad Creek, Rajapur Creek, etc.) are main attraction points for tourists. Some of the tourists are visiting the cultural and historical places viz. Ganpatipule, Lokmanysmark, Keshvsutsmark, Dashbhuj Ganpati, Fort, Jetty, Kuda Buddhist Cave, etc. Some institutes including Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth, Coconut Research Center, Marine Aquarium and Museum are also visiting places for academicians. Some tourists are visiting in the season of Ganpati festival, Holi festival, Turtle festival, Katal shilpa festival, Anjarle festival, Alphonso mangoes festival, etc.

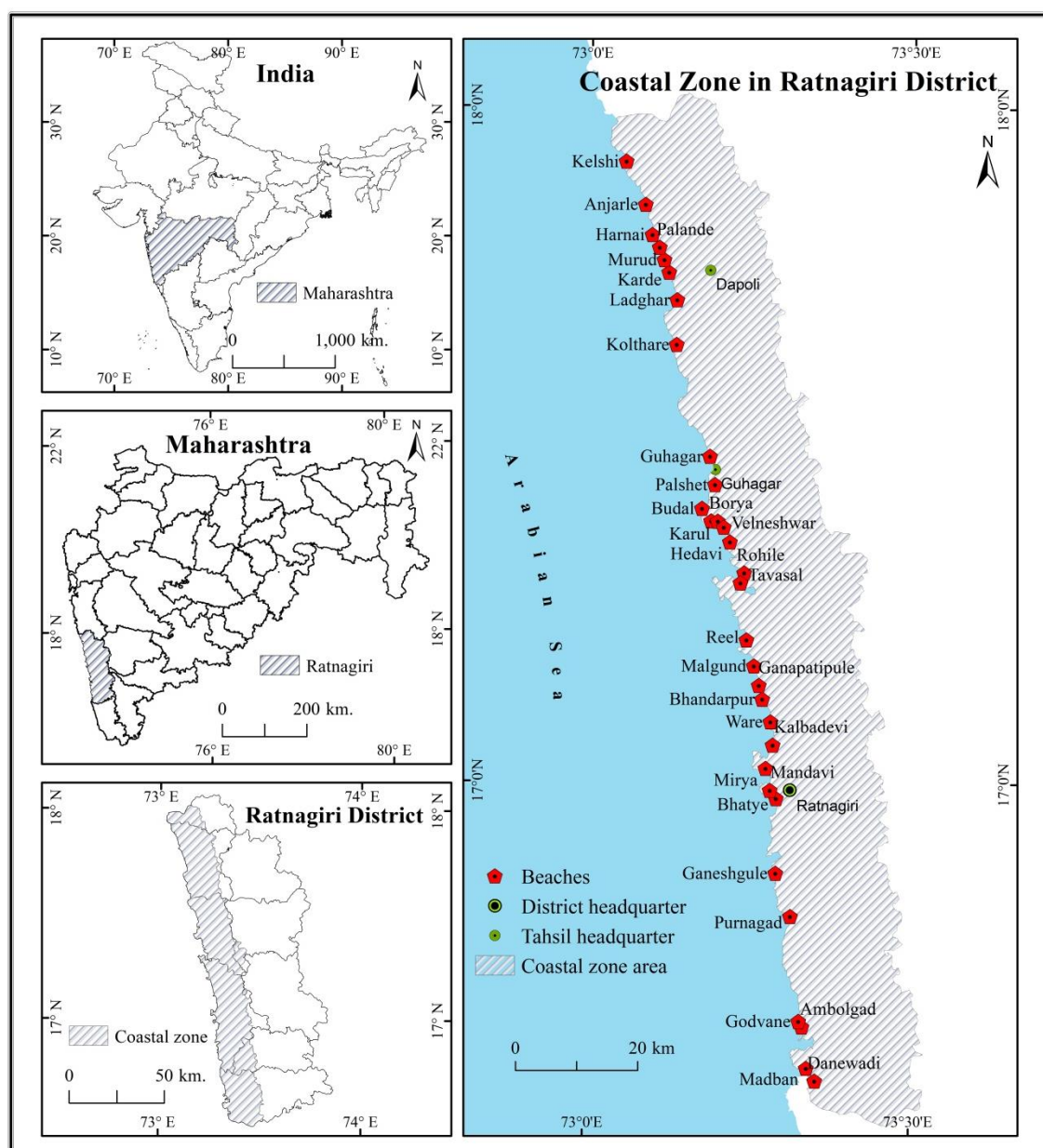


Figure 1. Study area: Coastal zone in Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra (India)

3 METHODOLOGY

Multi-criteria AHP [Analytic Hierarchy Process] technique was used for impact assessment of tourism activities on socioeconomic development in coastal zone of Ratnagiri district based on socio-eco-cultural criteria including accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care facilities, business, employability, standard of living, agriculture and fisheries, immovable properties and cultural values. The impact analysis was performed through eight steps (Figure 3): 1) selection of criteria, 2) collection of data, 3) ranking, 4) pairwise comparison matrix, 5) calculation of weights, 6) determination of score, 7) weighted analysis, and 8) validation. Impact of tourism activities on socioeconomic development of the region was analyzed in respondents' point of view' and respondents are native people in the study area.

3.1 Data

The topographic maps (1:50000) were procured from Survey of India (SIO) (Hegde and Reju, 2007) to locate tourists places in the study area. The field survey was conducted using structured questionnaires and interviews for impact assessment of tourism on development in the coastal zone of Ratnagiri district. The potential tourist places including beaches, headlands, cliffs, creeks, rivers, waterfalls, jetties, historical fort, memorials, temples, festivals, tourist villages, fish markets, clubs, lighthouses, research institutions, etc. observed in the region. The majority of tourists are visiting the places located on shorelines due to attraction of landscape features including caves, platforms, cliffs, colorful sands, sunset and sunrise, coastal vegetation including mangroves, coconut, mangoes, etc. (Table 1). About 32

beaches observed on the shoreline of Ratnagiri district and these are major attraction points of the tourists in the area. Therefore, the primary survey was conducted at nine out of 32 beaches viz. Harne, Guhagar, Budal, Velneshwar, Hedavi, Malgund, Bhatye, Ganpatipule and Madban to understand the variations in socioeconomic aspects for impact analysis of coastal tourism on economic development in the region.

The questionnaires were prepared based on literature reviews for collection of data in four level of impact: high, moderate, less and very less impact. Nine criteria were selected viz. accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care facilities, local business, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, immovable properties for impact assessment of coastal tourism (Figure 2). The native people are well aware and beneficiaries of economic development and socio-cultural changes in the area therefore, they considered as potential informer of about development in the region. The opinions of 156 respondents were recorded using the questionnaires into four levels viz. high, moderate, less and very less impact.

3.2 Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA)

The multi-criteria decision-making technique (MCDM), AHP and experts' opinions were used for impact assessment of tourism on socioeconomic development in the region (Ebrahimi *et al.*, 2019; Navale and Bhagat, 2021). Multi-criteria decision-making technique (MCDM) is useful apparatus to find the levels of impact on economic development, planning and management of tourism (Bunruamkaewa and Murayama, 2011). This is a simple but confident learning complex phenomenon to develop the design of methods includes the stages of aptitude, strategy and choice. Its processes are too unbiased way to attain the specific objectives of the study (Raha *et al.*, 2021; Navale and Bhagat, 2021) and have the ability to analyze difficult problems to produce different results and find the alternatives (Cengiz and Akbulak, 2009). AHP based MCDM technique needs a preparation of essential procedures e.g. ranking, pairwise comparison analysis, calculation of weights, determination of score and validation of results. This technique is calculating the comparison of decision indicators and criteria (Mansour *et al.*, 2020). It is useful for detection and delineation of tourism potential (Navale and Bhagat, 2021), land suitability analysis for agriculture (Zolekar and Bhagat, 2015; Zolekar and Bhagat, 2018), land use planning and coastal management (Pourebrahim *et al.*, 2014). This procedure is specifically valid to define the weights of selected criteria convenient to detect potential sites of tourism. This technique is useful for analysis of composite indicators and determines the weights of selected criteria (Sahani, 2019; Carrillo and Jorge, 2017). Therefore, MCDM technique was used for impact assessment of tourism activities in the coastal zone of Ratnagiri district.

The scholars like Blancas *et al.* (2011), Aminu *et al.* (2014), Semeoshenkova *et al.* (2016), Wang *et al.* (2016), Lee and Hsieh (2016), Yu *et al.* (2018), Boskovic (2019), Choi and Sirakaya (2006) have used different indicators i.e. landscape, ecology, environment, economic, socio-culture aspects, etc. for analysis of socioeconomic development at local to regional levels. Lee and Hsieh (2016) and Boskovic *et al.* (2019) used such indicators as a tool for planning and management of traditional tourism and to inculcate the awareness about

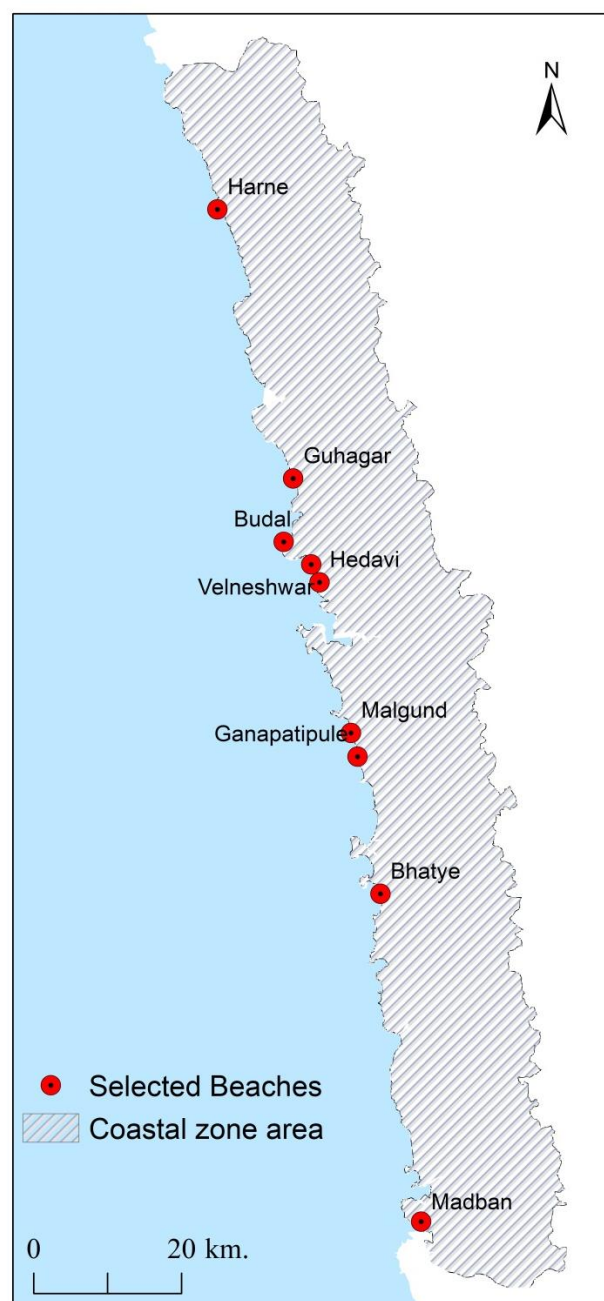


Figure 2. Selected sites for collection of responses

Table 1. Tourist sites: Coastal zone of Ratnagiri district

Types	Tourism sites
Beaches	Dandewadi beach, Madban beach, Ambolgad beach, Godvane beach, Purnagad beach, Ganeshgule beach, Bhatye Beach, Mandavi Beach, Mirya beach, Kalbadevi beach, Ware beach, Bhandarpur beach, Ganapatipule beach, Malgud beach, Reel beach, Tavasal beach, Rohile beach, Hedavi beach, Velneshwar beach, Karul beach, Borya beach, Palshet beach, Guhagar beach, Kolthare beach, Ladghar beach, Karde beach, Murud beach, Palande beach, Harnai beach, Anjarle beach, Kelshi beach and Budal beach.
Cliffs	Kolthare, Velneshwar and Jagarh
Headlands	Anjarle, Budal, Kolthare, Velneshwar, Jagarh, Guhagar, Mirya, Kalbadevi and Borya
Creeks	Kalbadevi creek, Bhatye creek, Purangad creek and Rajapur creek
Waterfalls	Ranpat waterfall and Ukshi waterfall
Rivers	Jagbudi, Vashishti, Kodavali, Shastri and Bav
Temples	Ganpatipule temple, Dashbhuj Ganpati, Bhagavati Mandir, Chandika devi Mandir, Datta temple chinchakhari, Dhutpapeswar Mandir, Durgadevi Mandir (Murud), Ganeshgule Mandir, Ganpati Mandir, Jai Vinayak Temple, Kadyawaril Ganpati, Kelshi Ganpati (Pandhara), Kelshi Village, Keshavraj Mandir, Shir Kanakaditya Mandir, Shri Lakshmi Keshav Devasthan, Karle, Tamastirth, Urfata Ganpati, Velneshwar Mandir and Vyadeshwar Mandir
Masjids	Baba Yakut Darga, Jama Masjid and Shahi Masjid
Villages	Anjarle, Asud Pool and Murud (Maharshi Karve)
Jettys	Dabhol Dhopve Jetty and Musakaji Jetty
Markets	Harnai Fish Market, Mirkarwada Jetty and Fish Market
Lighthouses	Jaigad Light House
Clubs	Royal Goldfield Sport Club
Forts	Ambolgad fort, Bankot Fort, Bhagavati Fort, Gopalgad Fort, Purnagad Fort, Ratnadurga Fort, Jaigad Fort and Suvarndurga Fort
Memorials	Lokmany Smark, Kesvshut Smark, Panhalekaji Caves, Savrkar Statue, Thiba Palace, Tilak Smarak, Velas Village (Nana Fandavnis), Kavi Keshavsoot Smark and Gateway of Ratnagiri
Research centers	Agom Aushadhalaya, Coconut research center, Konkan Krishi Vidyapeeth Marine Aquarium and Museum
Festivals	Ganpati festivals, holi festivals, Turtle festivals, Katal Shilpa festivals, Anjarle festivals and Alphonos mangoes festivals, etc.

environmental issues for sustainable tourism development. Indicator based analysis helps to motivate universal vision for balanced financial progress with environmental conservation and sociocultural peace (Wang *et al.*, 2016). Further, the tourism indicators are useful for monitoring the different aspects of development including commercial, community, traditional, ecological, radical and scientific aspects in difficult regions (Choi and Sirakaya, 2006). Indicators are useful for monitoring and measuring the tourism development in tourist places such as socioeconomic change in tourism sectors, amenities and facilities services, cultural values impact on visitors and tourists, environment changes impact on the tourism development (Boskovic, 2019) (Table 2).

Landscape diversities are significantly relating with development of nature based tourism (Wang *et al.*, 2016). The natural landscapes include biodiversity, wildlife, ecosystems, beautiful scenery at valleys, mountains and beaches (Irando, 2004). Reported landscape indicators are: 1) highland view-shed areas, 2) quality of river water, 3) slope less than 25%, and 4)

large open space (Aminu *et al.*, 2014). Some of the studies have used these landscape indicators as criteria for planning and management of sustainable tourism (Aminu *et al.*, 2014).

The environmental aspects are impacting the development (Karlekar *et al.*, 2017; Wang *et al.*, 2016) and environmental planning (Ghamgosar *et al.*, 2016) in coastal area. The environment awareness is supportive to inculcate the attraction in visitors of about the nature (Franco *et al.*, 2019; Chen and Bau, 2016). The tourist environmental aspects are classified into four categories: 1) coastal, 2) mountain, 3) urban and 4) rural (Delgado and Palomeque, 2014). The beach environment on coastal area is reported as highly suitable landscape for tourism activities (Semeoshenkova *et al.*, 2016). Further, Semeoshenkova *et al.* (2016) have classified the coastal landscape considering beach qualities including sand types, stability, erosion, etc. and 2) states of habitat. Wang *et al.* (2016) have used environmental aspects as indicators for analysis of sustainable development of coastal tourism: 1) environmental monitoring system,

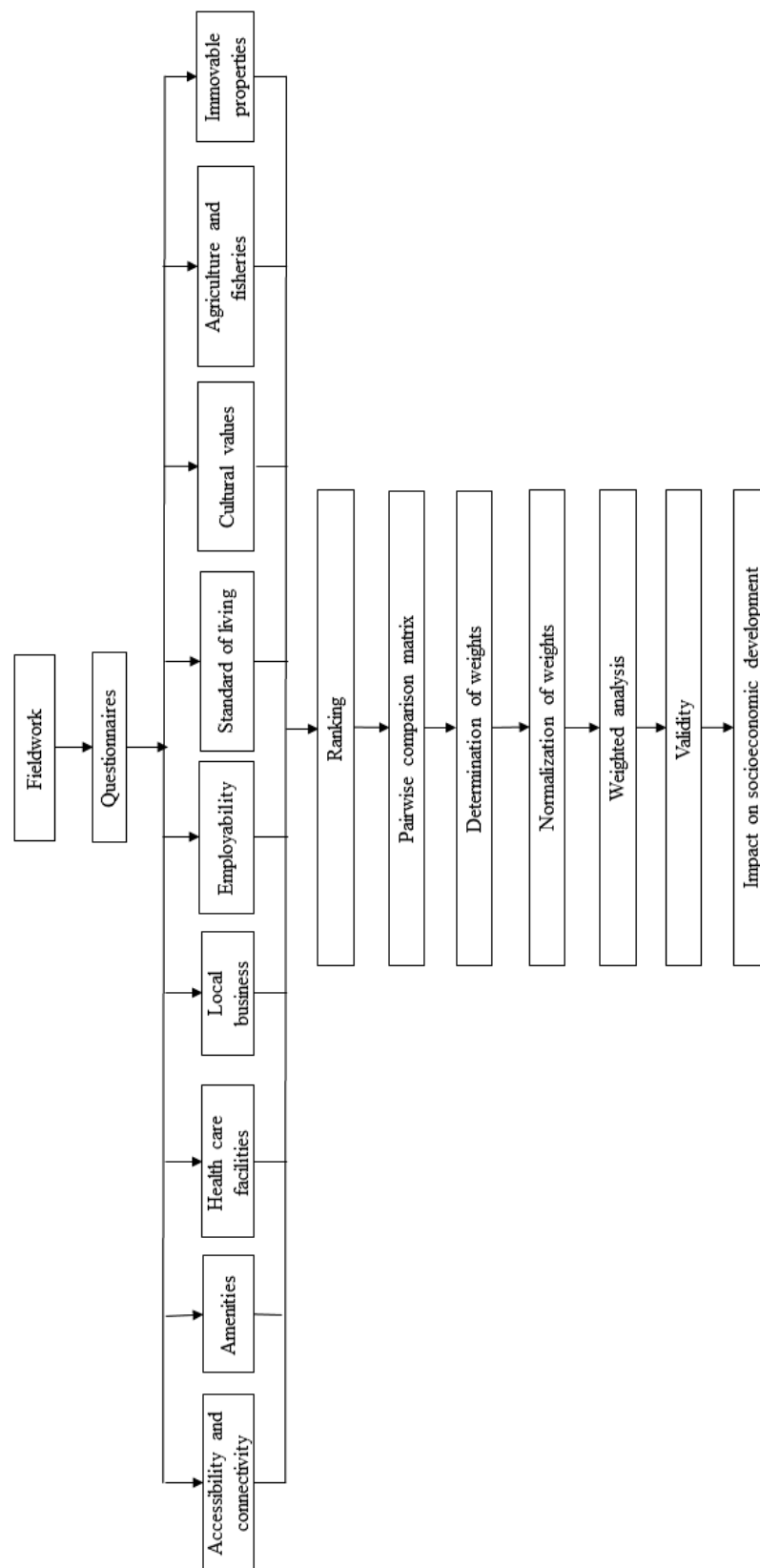


Figure 3. Methodology

2) environmental maintenance, and 3) pollution treatment and prevention. Lee and Hsieh (2016) have analyzed the participative views of native people, biological diversity and tourism for measurement of the sustainability indicators for the analysis of development. These sustainability indicators are: 1) rate of ecosystem degradation, 2) loss of renewable resources, 3) rate of reuse, recycle, reduction of resources use, and 4) environmental impact of tourism activities. Therefore, management and planning of environmental aspects are important for protection of nature and scenic beauty of coastal area for development of tourism activities.

Wang *et al.* (2016) have analyzed tourism sustainability considering: 1) ecological planning, 2) ecological restoration system for balancing the environmental management, 3) financial development and 4) socio-cultural harmony. Aminu *et al.* (2014) have suggested that conservation of ecosystem is significant for development of tourism with specific zones like 1) the largest habitat patch, and 2) distant areas for rare flora and fauna.

Scholar like Blancas *et al.* (2011), Choi and Sirakaya (2006), Trukhachev (2015), Wang *et al.* (2016) have considered economic aspects for analysis of development achieved through tourism projects with socio-cultural harmony. These aspects are: 1) financial services, 2) employment opportunities in tourism, agricultural and local sectors, 3) economic subsidy, 4) developmental association operations for development of tourism activities, and 5) recreational industry planning. The planning and monitoring of these aspects are more significant for development of tourism activities including visits and stays of tourists in the session with accommodation capacities at tourism destination. These tourism facilities are helpful for growth of economic activities and national tourism market (Semeoshenkova *et al.*, 2016). Some reported criteria of analysis are: 1) presence of all basic and important facilities, 2) presence of all basic well managed facilities, 3) presence of all basic facilities, but poorly managed facilities, and 4) absence of one or more basic facilities for tourism development. Yu *et al.* (2018) reported that tourism growth and development are supportive for economic sectors: 1) tax revenues, 2) investment, etc. Choi and Sirakaya, (2006) have reported contribution of tourism to economic development through increase in employment and income, prices of different products, import, contribution to local economy, GDP and economic stability. However, tourism activities also have negative impact on the goods and services, price of land and houses, increased taxation and cost of living to local societies. Blancas *et al.*, (2011) informed that tourism activities are affecting the local people and tourism destination as increase in value of real estate, service industry, unemployment, etc. Therefore,

amenities and service are key factor for development of rural tourism (Park and Yoon, 2011)

Blancas *et al.* (2011) have reported social indicators of economic development through tourism local tradition and culture to the visitors as sense of security and these criteria like sports, health, transport, education facilities, financial services, life expectancy, income education, property value of real estate, price-quality relationship tourists and tourism, land use planning for tourism, access to network (airport, road, railway) and density, general demographic dependency index and tourist satisfaction level to determine the peace condition of local society.

Yu *et al.* (2018) stated that local community is supportive for the development of rural tourism activities as: 1) additional recreation opportunities, 2) improving quality of services, 3) better police and fire fighting protection and 4) cultural, historical and entertainment activities. However, negative factors are affecting the local community and tourist places. These negative factors are: 1) disrupting quality of life, 2) overcrowded, 3) overused recreational resources, 4) tourism growing too fast, and 5) crime and vandalism. Therefore, the peaceful with selection of secured tourist destination for development of tourism destinations such as social appreciates a great significance to development of local tourism.

Scholar likes Wang *et al.* (2016); Yu *et al.* (2018), Fadafan *et al.* (2018), etc. have reported that preservation of local culture is supportive for varied recreational activities and encourage tourism development. These aspects are: 1) protection of local culture, 2) cultural identity, 3) cultural entertainment activities, and 4) historical and cultural sites. It is helpful to preserve the tradition value for satisfy of visitors to encourage tourist flow at the tourist destination. Therefore, natural scenic beauty of beach as well comfort environment, ecology system and biodiversity are helpful to tourism activities but without presence of sociocultural harmony, tourism development is not possible. Thus, the many scholars have used multi-criteria impact analysis of tourism activities on socioeconomic development at local to regional levels.

3.3 Criteria

Nine criteria were selected viz. accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care, facilities, business, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, immovable properties for impact assessment of coastal tourism in the study area using AHP based weighted analysis technique. The distribution of respondents (%) shown according to the selected tourists' sites to show the spatial variations in impact of tourism on socioeconomic development in the region in view of native people.

Table 2. Indicators of tourism impacts on development

Types	Indicators	Authors
Landscape	Height Slope Larger open spaces Landscape diversity	Aminu <i>et al.</i> (2014) Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016)
Environment	Beach type and stability Habitats (Centuries) Water qualities Pollution prevention Ecosystem degradation Loss of renewable resources Reuse and recycling of resources Environmental impact of tourism activity Environmental monitoring system Environmental maintenance	Semeoshenkova <i>et al.</i> (2016) Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) Lee and Hsieh (2016) Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016)
Ecology	Ecological restoration system Ecological planning The largest habitat patch Areas protected for rare flora and fauna	Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) Aminu <i>et al.</i> (2014)
Economic	Land use Financial services Employment growth Economic subsidy Income of local self-government Tax revenues Investment GDP Associations Recreational industry Property values of real estate Amenities and services	Fadafan <i>et al.</i> (2018) Blancas <i>et al.</i> (2011) Blancas <i>et al.</i> (2011), Choi and Sirakaya (2006), Trukhachev (2015), Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) Choi and Sirakaya (2006) Yu <i>et al.</i> (2018) Choi and Sirakaya (2006) Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) Blancas <i>et al.</i> (2011) Semeoshenkova <i>et al.</i> (2016), Blancas <i>et al.</i> (2011)
Social	Health services Sports facilities Educational facilities Crime and vandalism Disrupting nature of person Public awareness about tourism Involvement of native people in tourism industry	Blancas <i>et al.</i> (2011) Yu <i>et al.</i> (2018) Choi and Sirakaya (2006)
Cultural	Local culture Cultural identity Cultural activities Historical and cultural sites	Wang <i>et al.</i> (2016) Yu <i>et al.</i> (2018) Fadafan <i>et al.</i> (2018)

3.3.1 Accessibility and Connectivity

The transportation is one of significant sector in the economy of any nation. The road connectivity is a significant criterion in measuring ecotourism and convenience to visitor geo-sites and geo-morpho-sites (Anna and Zdzislawa, 2017; Mansour *et al.*, 2020). The accessibility and connectivity including road, railway and airport as well as sea face road are more significant

for the development beach tourism (Murali *et al.*, 2013; Navale *et al.*, 2021). The study assesses the accessibility of the tourist places and the existence of visitor infrastructure i.e. lodging, cafes, shops, local food, etc. It is the attraction of tourist and local involvement in the tourist sectors is the ideal principles for tourism development (Kubalikova and Kirchner, 2015). The concentration of roads, distance from tourist site, shops, art centers, recreation facilities,

guesthouses, lodgings available in coastal zone show impact on tourism and tourists' activities (Liaghat *et al.*, 2013; Nahuelhual *et al.*, 2013) and opportunities of localized tourism (Singh *et al.*, 2021). The impact on accessibility and connectivity was assessed using opinions recorded from native people of tourist places in the coastal area and classified into four categories: High, moderate, less and very less impact. About 35.9 % respondent showed the high, 28.8% respondent showed moderate, 28.2% respondents showed less and 7.1% respondents showed very less impact of tourism activities on accessibility and connectivity in the area.

Higher impact of tourism activities on accessibility and connectivity was reported at Ganpatipule (68.8%), Malgund (61.5%) and Bhatye (59.3%) beaches. All these beaches are located near the district headquarter and connected through national (NH-204), state (SH-106, 110 and 167) and district roads to other towns, cities and tourist places. It is notable that railway facilities are available for these beaches. Moderate impact was estimated for Guhagar (53.8%), Velneshwar (44.4%), Harne (40.9%) and Hedavi (40%) beaches with good connectivity of state highways (SH-04, 96,102, 103, 110,112,167) and district roads whereas less impact was reported far Madban beach (75%) located at far South area with undulating topography. Similarly, Budal (75%) beach also show less impact on connectivity due to rugged topography. However, these beaches have comparatively more scenic beauty and tourism potentials for exploration (Figure 4 and Table 3).

3.3.2 Amenities

The amenities show a vital role in growth of local tourism in the region (Deller *et al.*, 2001). Amenities are supportive to build attractions in tourist's mind about different destinations. These amenities are hotels, holiday resorts, lodging and boarding, shops, cafes, snack bars, public washings, public telephone, tour guides, art galleries, different services including parking, public transportation, electricity, water supply,

banking, currency exchange, medical stores, clinics, gardens, exhibitions, airports, etc. (Lam and Xiao, 2000; Manaf *et al.*, 2015; Riwayatiningsih and Purnaweni, 2018; Ruano, 2018; Navale and Bhagat, 2021). These amenities are supportive for growth in number of visitors, the tourism activities and job opportunities (Nooripoor *et al.*, 2020). The quality of available services and facilities at the tourist destinations are significant to grow attraction of tourists. Therefore, amenities are most important for the tourism development. About 42.95% respondents showed the high, 26.92% respondents showed moderate, 19.87% respondents showed less and 10.26% respondents showed very less impact of tourism activities on development of amenities in the study area.

The higher impact of tourism activities on amenities, service and facilities was reported at Ganpatipule (75%), Guhagar (61.54%), and Velneshwar (61.11%) Harne (54.55%) and Bhatye (40.74%) beaches. These beaches are connected to administrative and urban center with more facilities and services including roads, railways, hotels, restaurants, drinking water, public security and safety. Moderate impact observed for Hedavi (60 %) with good amenities and service. However, Budal (68.75 %) and Madban (43.75%) beaches are away from administrative places and poor amenities and services. Similarly, Malgund (38.46%) also show less impact of tourism on services and facilities. The local government provided the infrastructure, recreation facilities and entertainment opportunities to native people (Figure 5 and Table 4).

3.3.3 Health Care Facilities

The health care facilities including safety movements, pure water, clean beaches, safe access to beaches, bathing, customs offices, financial service, tourist information resources, beauty salon, fire stations, public security facilities, medical services, etc. for

Table 3. Accessibility and connectivity

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	22.7	40.9	31.8	4.5
Guhagar	46.2	53.8	0.0	0.0
Budal	0.0	6.3	75.0	18.8
Velneshwar	33.3	44.4	11.1	11.1
Hedavi	26.7	40.0	33.3	0.0
Malgund	61.5	23.1	15.4	0.0
Bhatye	59.3	29.6	7.4	3.7
Ganpatipule	68.8	12.5	12.5	6.3
Madban	0.0	6.3	75.0	18.8
Total	35.9	28.8	28.2	7.1

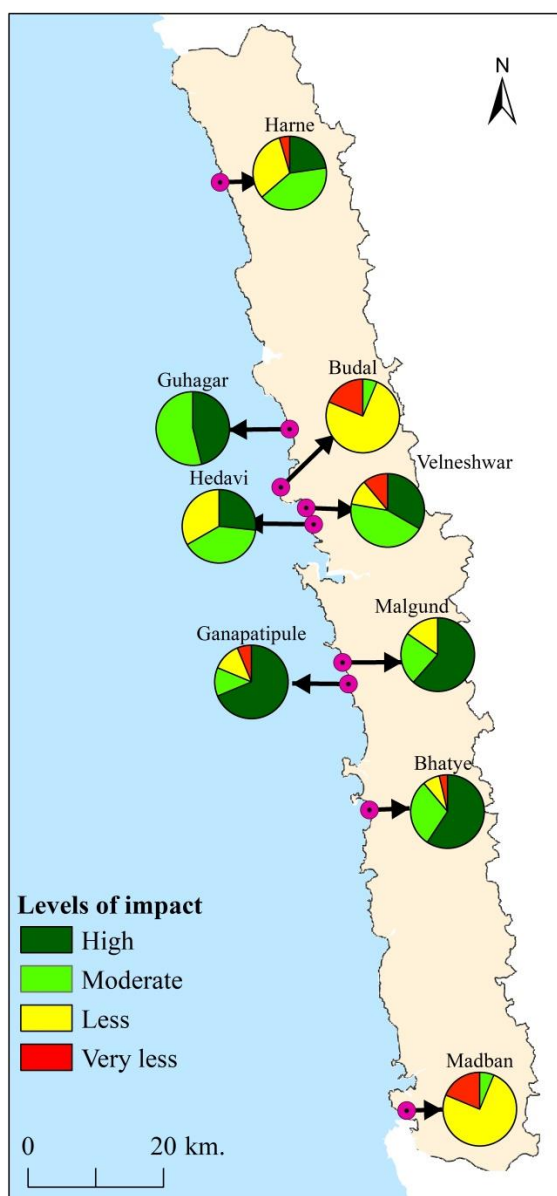


Figure 4. Accessibility and connectivity

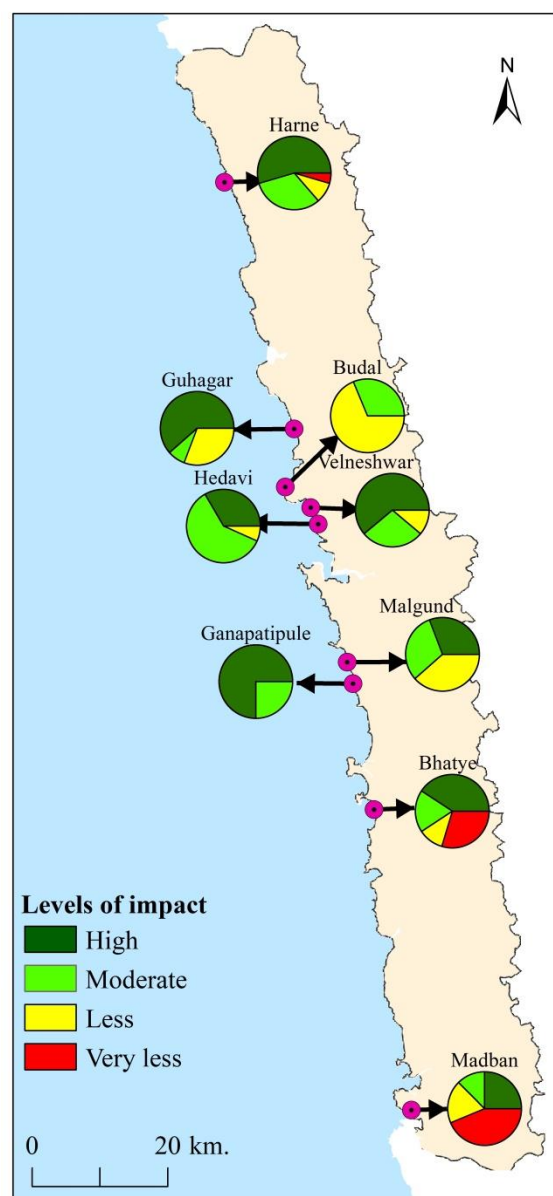


Figure 5. Levels of impact: Amenities

tourism development in the region (Blancas *et al.*, 2016; Meyer and Meyer, 2015; Chen and Bau, 2016; Semeoshenkova *et al.*, 2016). Chen and Bau (2016) have used these parameters to decide the tourism standards and analysis of development (Chen, 2010). Tourism activities are affecting sociocultural and natural environment positively as well as negatively (Terzidou *et al.*, 2008).

Environment provides a variety of services including social welfare, health and livings (Sun *et al.*, 2019). Therefore, some of the scholars have recommended the ecotourism for health care and treatments to recover from some of the diseases (Hughes and Scheyvens, 2018; Sharbatian and

Khazaei, 2012). Ecotourism places become major attraction points especially for urban visitors. Health resorts are main attractions of tourists for different health caring treatments. It is famous as health tourism through health resorts and hospitals (Hacia, 2018). However, many coastal tourism destination show scarcity of important health care facilities including public sanitation, sewage, drinking water, clean environment, lodging and boarding, clinics, etc. It shows impact on a natural environment and health caring of native people and visitors (Sousa *et al.*, 2014). In this study, the impact of tourism on health care facilities was assessed using responses of native people from selected tourists' places. These responses are classified into four categories: High (35.90 %),

moderate (28.21%), less (27.56%) and very less (8.33%).

Higher impact of tourism activities on health care facilities was reported at Ganpatipule (56.25%), Guhagar (53.85%), Bhatye (51.85%), and Velneshwar (50%) beaches. The economic growth at these beaches is significantly helpful for providing the medical services including health care facilities at primary health center, healthcare institutions, hospitals, private clinics. Moderate impact on health care services was observed at Harne (45.45 %), Hedavi (40 %) and Malgund (38.46 %) beaches. The beaches like Budal (87.50 %) and Madban (43.75%) show less impact of tourism on health care facilities. However, all these beaches show healthy environment including good vegetation cover, pure drinking water, clean air and sky, nearness of ocean, etc. Therefore, the natural

environment is favorable for medical tourism, outdoor visits, mounting, riding, adventures, sport activities, educational tours, etc. (Gyinye *et al.*, 2017) (Figure 6 and Table 5).

3.3.4 Local Business

Tourism is a significant device for financial development in developing and under developed countries (Gupta and Dutta, 2017), which creates employment and income for local people (Ejiofor *et al.*, 2012) with affordable innovative commercial prospects. Tourism creates the amount of revenue from local business with individual earnings of native people. The tourism businesses are supportive for the investment and development (Khoshkam *et al.*, 2016) in local business such as farm-stays, tour guides, stores, local transportations, hotels, etc. (Petrovic, 2018). Further, claim over composite visitor's

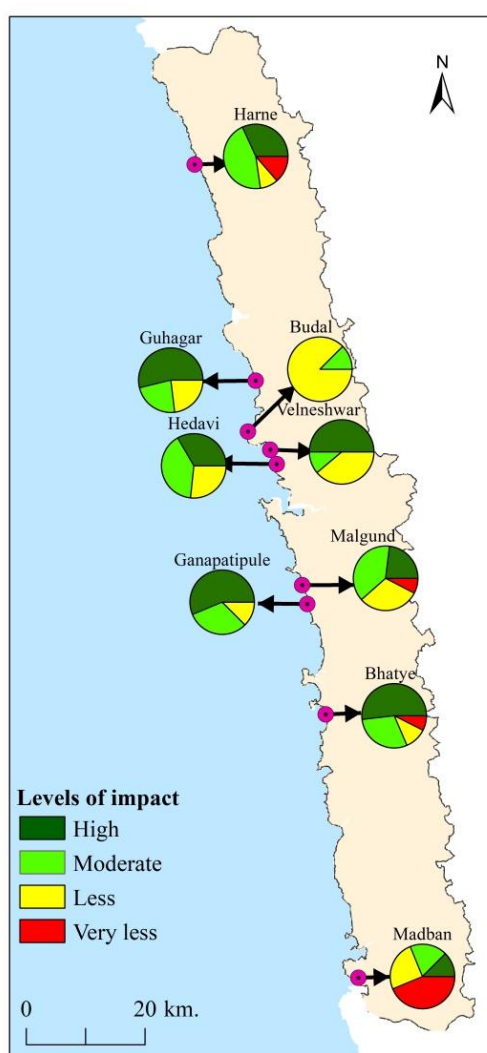


Figure 6. Levels of impact: Health care facilities

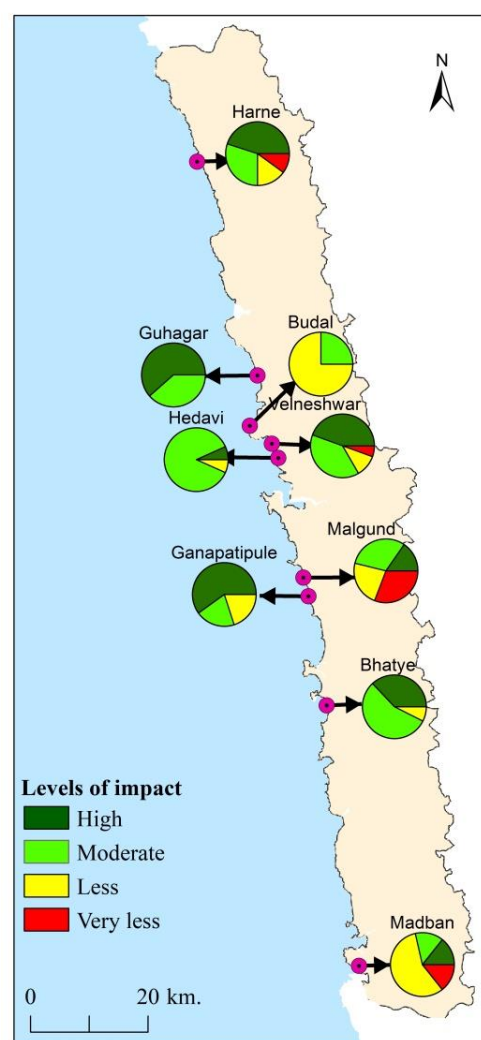


Figure 7. Levels of impact: Local business

Table 4. Levels of impact: Amenities

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	54.55	31.82	9.09	4.55
Guhagar	61.54	7.69	30.77	0.00
Budal	0.00	31.25	68.75	0.00
Velneswar	61.11	27.78	11.11	0.00
Hedavi	33.33	60.00	6.67	0.00
Malgund	30.77	30.77	38.46	0.00
Bhatye	40.74	18.52	11.11	29.63
Ganpatipule	75.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
Madban	25.00	12.50	18.75	43.75
Total	42.95	26.92	19.87	10.26

Table 5. Levels of impact: Health care facilities

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	31.82	45.45	9.09	13.64
Guhagar	53.85	23.08	23.08	0.00
Budal	0.00	12.50	87.50	0.00
Velneswar	50.00	11.11	38.89	0.00
Hedavi	33.33	40.00	26.67	0.00
Malgund	23.08	38.46	30.77	7.69
Bhatye	51.85	29.63	11.11	7.41
Ganpatipule	56.25	31.25	12.50	0.00
Madban	12.50	18.75	25.00	43.75
Total	35.90	28.21	27.56	8.33

comings is allied by commercial development in dual customs. Foremost, visitors spend currency on accommodation, lunchtimes, attractions, supermarkets, etc. Additional, tourist comings from side to side claim offshoot indirect special effects on the GDP, which is including the high expert operations, information, and innovative concepts in tourism sector (Croes *et al.*, 2021). About 33.33% respondents showed the high, 38.46% respondents showed moderate, 22.44% respondents showed less and 5.77% respondents showed very less impact of tourism activities on local business.

The higher impact of tourism activities on local business was reported at Guhagar (61.54 %), Ganpatipule (60 %) Velneswar (44.44%) and Harne (45 %) beaches. These beaches are located near to the city through good road and railway network which promoting the local business like farm-based business, traditional business stores, small restaurants, small markets, apartments, hostels, camping facilities, etc. The small-scale business are supportive for tourism development with employability and income for native

people. The traditional and cultural invents and some festivals are helping to develop the small-scale and seasonal business like small hotels, restaurants, home stay, entrainment business including dances, traditional drama, theatres, etc. Hedavi (86.67%), Budal (75%), Bhatye (55.56%) Madban, (57.14%) and Malgund (30.77%) beaches show less growth of local business due to poor connectivity (Figure 7 and Table 6).

3.3.5 Employability

Tourism reflects as an identical key device and source of employment to native people (Green, 2001). Tourism activities are supportive to growth the settlements, business, hotel, restaurant, lodging, entertainment, cafe, shops, art gallery and revenue to government authorities (Kantawateera *et al.*, 2017; Susano *et al.*, 2019; Chaudhary *et al.*, 2021; Figueroa and Rotarou, 2016; Nunkooa and Ramkissoon, 2010). The native people are able to provide traditional facilities to visitors which provides employment opportunities with affordable earning (Rio and Nunes, 2012; Ferreira, 2007). About 29.49% respondents from

the study area showed the high, 31.41% respondents showed moderate, 24.36% respondents showed less and 14.74% respondents showed very less impact of tourism activities on employability.

The higher impact of tourism activities on employability was reported at Ganpatipule (56.25%), Malgund (38.46 %) and Guhagar (38.46 %) beaches. Small-scale businesses like hotels, restaurants, lodging, cafés, tourist centers, medical stores and clinics are growing in these area and employability increasing for local people. Hedavi (60%) and Madban beaches (50%), Velneshwar (50 %), Bhatye (40 %) and Budal (37%) beaches show less ability to generate employment. Similarly, Harne (36.36 %) beach also shows less socioeconomic development and employability. However, these beaches have comparatively more scenic beauty and tourism potentials and employment to local people through socioeconomic development (Figure 8 and Table 7).

3.3.6 Standard of Living

Tourism increases revenue, diversity in business, sales and goods, public infrastructures and standard of living (Hanafiah *et al.*, 2013; Jafar *et al.*, 2015; Mirzaei, 2020). Tourism as dynamic economic sector is useful to change capability of local people to increase the socioeconomic conditions (Ghoochani *et al.*, 2019). The situation stands assumed that contributing factor of tourism movements to tourist places their amenities and facilities are adequate with higher standard of living. The income is influencing more to change these tourist places with inadequate amenities and facilities (Khadaroo and Seetanah, 2008). The tourism industry is an international marketplace for both developed and underdeveloped countries. It is supporting to national economy and ultimately to increase the income and standard of living of native people (Hong, 2009). In addition to that, tourism industry helps to the development of new setup, accessibility and more connectivity to the tourist destinations. The tourism activities are upgrading the economic empowerment of local societies (Gnanapala and Sandaruwani, 2016). Therefore, the opinions of local people were recorded

to understand the contribution of tourism for changing the standard of living in the region and the responses were classified into four comparative categories: High (33.33%), moderate (37.78%), less (18.59%) and very less (10.90 %) impact (Figure 9 and Table 8).

The higher impact of tourism activities on standard of living of local communities was reported for Ganpatipule (68.75%), Guhagar (53.85%), Velneshwar (44.44 %) and Malgund (38.46%) beach areas. Ganpatipule and Guhagar beaches show improved infrastructure including roads, electricity and schools, which is supportive for growth in small-scale business and property values, improving building qualities, expansion of local market and employability for native people. Hedavi (86.67%), Budal (62.50%) Bhatye (51.85 %), Madban beach (50%) and Harne (45.45 %) beaches show moderate impact on transportation and recreational facilities (Figure 9 and Table 8).

3.3.7 Cultural Values

The historic and cultural traditions are interrelated parameters and play an important role in growth of tourism in the region (Ismagilova *et al.*, 2015). Cultural tourism is significant for the development of innovative growth of market with imageries in and within nations (Hughes and Allen, 2005). 1) Cultural festivals, 2) cultural materials like carpets, picnic basket, multifarious beads, 3) different arts: traditional dance, drama, songs, etc. 4) historical monument, and 5) cultural excursions, 6) carnivals and related events, 7) ancient vicinities and memorials, ancient ports are major cultural attraction of tourists in the region (Zadel and Bogdan, 2013; Cletus and Okpoko, 2015).

Heritage tourism introduces societies to their traditional backgrounds. Archeological explorations give information about ancient cultures and attract visitors (Mckercher *et al.*, 2005). Cultural landscapes represent recollections of extensive affiliation of anthropological atmosphere (Mahmud and Muhammad, 2018). Tangible cultural assets are the physical record of social involvements (Li *et al.*, 2021).

Table 6. Levels of impact: Local business

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	45.00	30.00	15.00	10.00
Guhagar	61.54	38.46	0.00	0.00
Budal	0.00	25.00	75.00	0.00
Velneshwar	44.44	38.89	11.11	5.56
Hedavi	6.67	86.67	6.67	0.00
Malgund	15.38	30.77	23.08	30.77
Bhatye	37.04	55.56	7.41	0.00
Ganpatipule	60.00	20.00	20.00	0.00
Madban	14.29	14.29	57.14	14.29
Total	33.33	38.46	22.44	5.77

Therefore, cultural values of the region promote tourism activities and significant for job opportunities and financial support with social welfares to both visitors and native people (Oyola *et al.*, 2012). The rural traditions are useful to inculcate unity in the society without the distinctive features of the rural community (Yun, 2014). Furthermore, tourism raises the national revenue, offers employability, foreign

exchange and community integration in diversity (Selim *et al.*, 2021). Therefore, responses from the local people recorded to understand the contribution of cultural values in economic development in the region and classified into four categories: High (32.69%), moderate (32.05%), less (20.51%) and very less (14.74%). Higher impact of tourism activities reported at Ganpatipule (62.50%), Bhatye (44.44%),

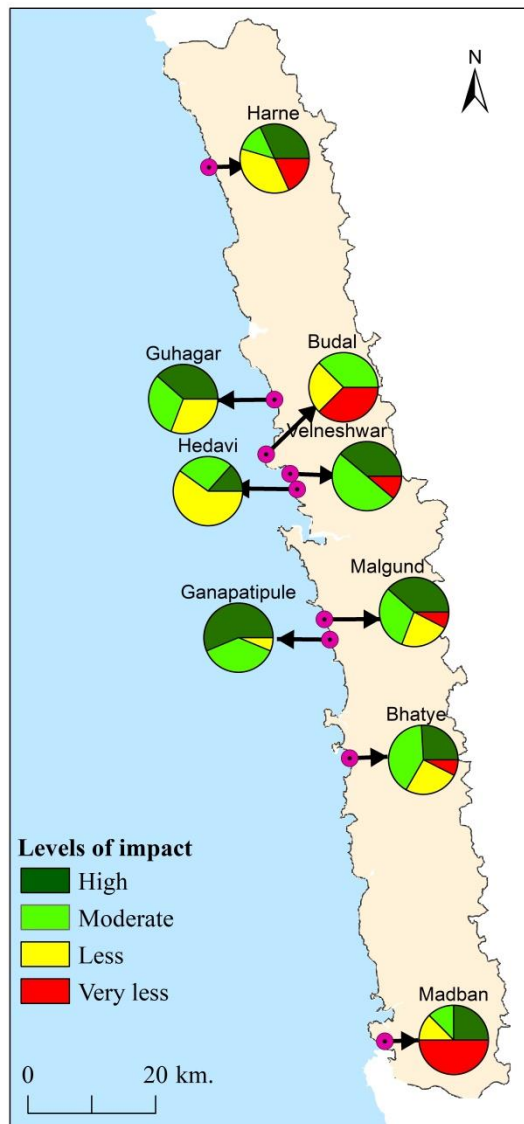


Figure 8. Levels of impact: Employability

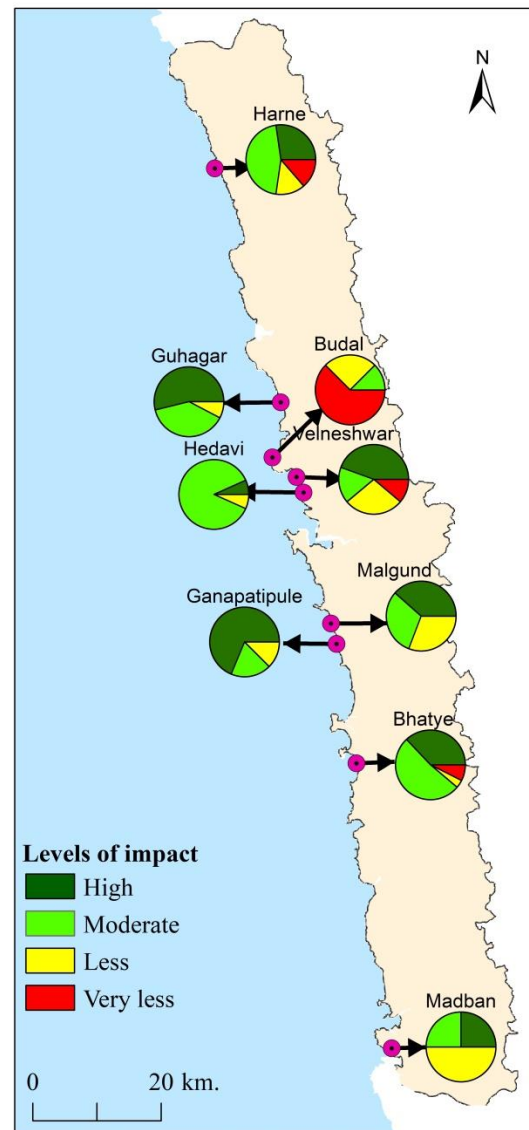


Figure 9. Levels of impact: Standard of living

Table 7. Levels of impact: Employability

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	31.82	13.64	36.36	18.18
Guhagar	38.46	30.77	30.77	0.00
Budal	0.00	37.50	25.00	37.50
Velneswar	38.89	50.00	0.00	11.11
Hedavi	13.33	26.67	60.00	0.00
Malgund	38.46	30.77	23.08	7.69
Bhatye	25.93	40.74	25.93	7.41
Ganpatipule	56.25	37.50	6.25	0.00
Madban	25.00	12.50	12.50	50.00
Total	29.49	31.41	24.36	14.74

Table 8. Levels of impact: Standard of living

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	27.27	45.45	13.64	13.64
Guhagar	53.85	38.46	7.69	0.00
Budal	0.00	12.50	25.00	62.50
Velneswar	44.44	16.67	27.78	11.11
Hedavi	6.67	86.67	6.67	0.00
Malgund	38.46	30.77	30.77	0.00
Bhatye	37.04	51.85	3.70	7.41
Ganpatipule	68.75	18.75	12.50	0.00
Madban	25.00	25.00	50.00	0.00
Total	33.33	37.18	18.59	10.90

Veleneshwar (44.44%) and Guhagar (38.46%) beaches are famous pilgrimage centers of Kokan region. The main attraction of tourists is to visit such cultural places and cultural festivals. Moderate impact was estimated for Malgund (53.85 %), Hedavi (46.67%) and Harne (40.91 %) beaches with moderate cultural and traditional attraction places in this region whereas less impact was reported for Madban (50%) and Budal (68.75%) beaches poor connectivity due to rugged topography (Figure 10 and Table 9).

3.3.8 Agriculture and Fisheries

The agriculture and fisheries are major activities along the coastal regions (Snoussi *et al.*, 2007). Fisheries play a vital role in the commercial activities for more

earnings of families (Wanyonyi *et al.*, 2016). Maritime tourism is unique fastest growing tourism sector and consist of entertaining events. The marine fishing activities are supportive to the marine tourism and creating the employment opportunities in marine tourism sector (Chen, 2010). Agriculture is a dynamic and unique sector favorable for the agro-tourism like mango festivals (Skanavis and Sakellari, 2008). Similarly, fisheries in the region are the attraction of tourists like fish food. Therefore, responses about role of agriculture and fisheries have been recorded from native people and classified into four categories: High (45.51%), moderate (24.36%), less (22.44%) and very less (7.69%) (Figure 11 and Table 10).

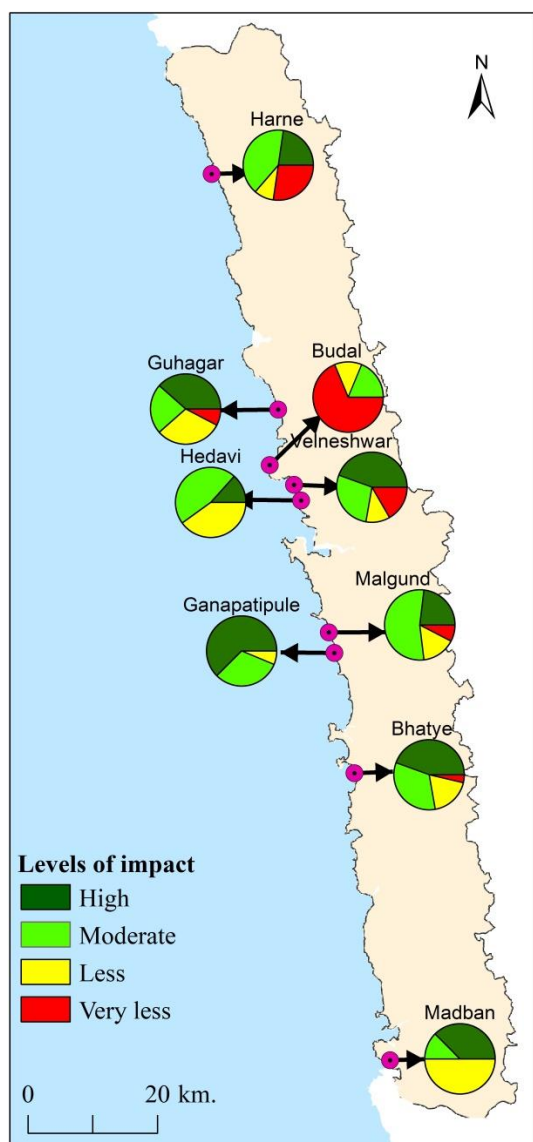


Figure 10. Levels of impact: Cultural value

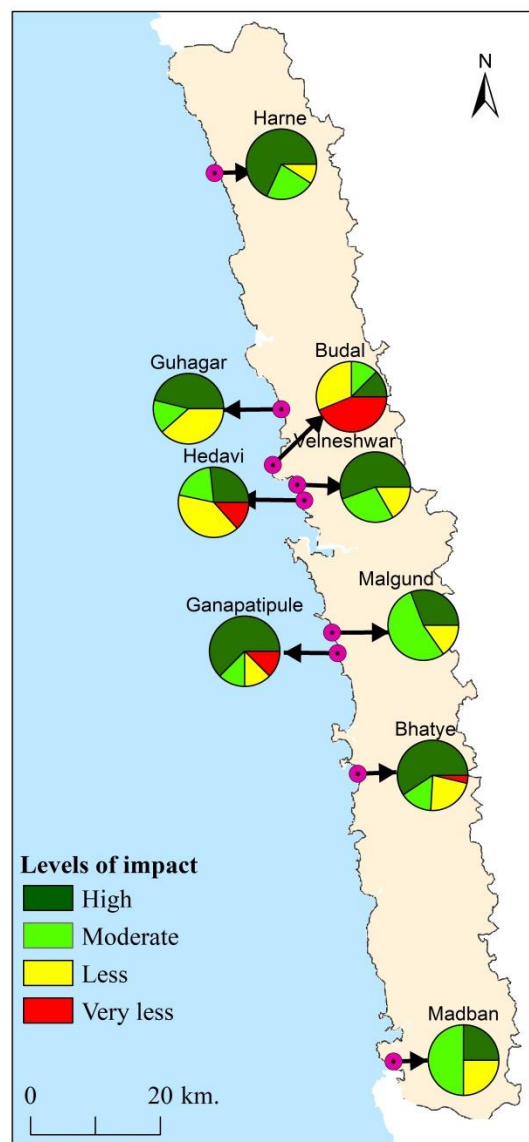


Figure 11. Levels of impact: Agriculture and fisheries

Table 9. Levels of impact: Cultural value

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	22.73	40.91	9.09	27.27
Guhagar	38.46	23.08	30.77	7.69
Budal	0.00	18.75	12.50	68.75
Velneswar	44.44	27.78	11.11	16.67
Hedavi	13.33	46.67	40.00	0.00
Malgund	23.08	53.85	15.38	7.69
Bhatye	44.44	33.33	18.52	3.70
Ganpatipule	62.50	31.25	6.25	0.00
Madban	37.50	12.50	50.00	0.00
Total	32.69	32.05	20.51	14.74

Table 10. Levels of impact: Agriculture and fisheries

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	68.18	22.73	9.09	0.00
Guhagar	46.15	15.38	38.46	0.00
Budal	12.50	12.50	31.25	43.75
Velneswar	55.56	27.78	16.67	0.00
Hedavi	26.67	20.00	40.00	13.33
Malgund	30.77	53.85	15.38	0.00
Bhatye	59.26	14.81	22.22	3.70
Ganpatipule	62.50	12.50	12.50	12.50
Madban	25.00	50.00	25.00	0.00
Total	45.51	24.36	22.44	7.69

The higher impact of tourism activities on agricultural and fisheries was reported for Harne (68.18%), Ganpatipule (62.50%), Bhatye (59.26%), Velneswar (55.56%) and Guhagar (46.15%) beaches. These beaches areas show abundant laterite and red soils useful for coconut, mango, cashewnut and rice production. Area near to Harne beach is a famous for fishing and Alphanso mango. Moderate impact reported for Malgund (53.85 %) and Madban (50 %) beaches with less agriculture and fishing activates. Less impact reported for Budal beach (43.75 %) located in middle area. Hedavi (75%) beach shows less fishing activities due poor fishing infrastructures (Figure 11 and Table 10).

3.3.9 Immovable Properties

The tourism activities are supportive for development of houses, community places, administrative building, amenities like hotels, restaurants, shops, cafes, parking, etc. Therefore, growth in such kind of immovable properties is major indicator of contribution in the socioeconomic development of the region (Mandic *et al.*, 2018). The growth and development in these properties are helping to increase revenue to local self-government for administration and development of public infrastructure. Tourism activities in the coastal region are supporting to the development of these properties including commercial and domestic purposes from private and public sectors (Cervantes and Espejel, 2008). Therefore, tourism activities reflect the growth in commercial, domestic and public infrastructure with increased revenue and employments (Sullivan and Jackson, 2002). Tangible heritage, geo-heritage buildings and historical places, memorials and art galleries are major attractions and require protection and maintenance (Alfane, 2020). Therefore, level of protection and maintenance of these archeological and historical properties also indicator of development in the region. The researcher has recorded response from respondents about growth and development in immovable properties from the study area and classified into four categories: High (41.81%), moderate

(25.30%), less (23.04%) and very less (9.85%) (Figure 12 and Table 11).

The higher impact of tourism activities on immovable properties reported at Ganpatipule (81.25%), Bhatye (77.78 %), Velneswar (55.56%) and Guhagar (53.85%) beaches. These all beaches are located near the administrative place and connected with district roads to tourist places. The various amenities and facilities including rail network, road network, hotel, restaurant, lodging, medical store, café, entertainment center, hospital, seacoast recreational facilities, etc. are supportive for development of tourist activities along the coastal area of the study area. Therefore, higher growth in immovable properties observed in this region. Moderate impact was estimated for Malgund (46.15 %) and Harne (36.36 %) beaches with less amenities and facilities, and district roads whereas less impact was reported far Hedavi (33.33%), Madban beach (37.50 %) located at far South and low tourism development. Similarly, Budal (37.50%) beach is in hill zone with far away from cities. It is not favorable for growth in immovable properties because of tourists visiting very rarely to this place (Figure 12 and Table 11).

3.4 Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP)

In 1960, AHP techniques used for resolving composite difficulties of judgment making by Prof. Thomas L. Saaty. Zolekar and Bhagat (2015); Gaikwad and Bhagat (2017); Raha *et al.* (2021), Navale and Bhagat (2021) have used this technique for site suitability analysis for identification of suitable sites for agriculture, watershed management and tourism activities (Ambecha *et al.*, 2020; Gynaye *et al.*, 2017). MCA and Geographical Information System (GIS) are significant apparatuses for suitability assessments to find suitable sites (Malczewski, 2006). Sahani (2019) suggested GIS and Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis (MCDA) techniques for the identification of the nature-built tourism prospective places based on socioeconomic and environmental indicators. Wind and Saaty (1980) reported that AHP structure is commonly

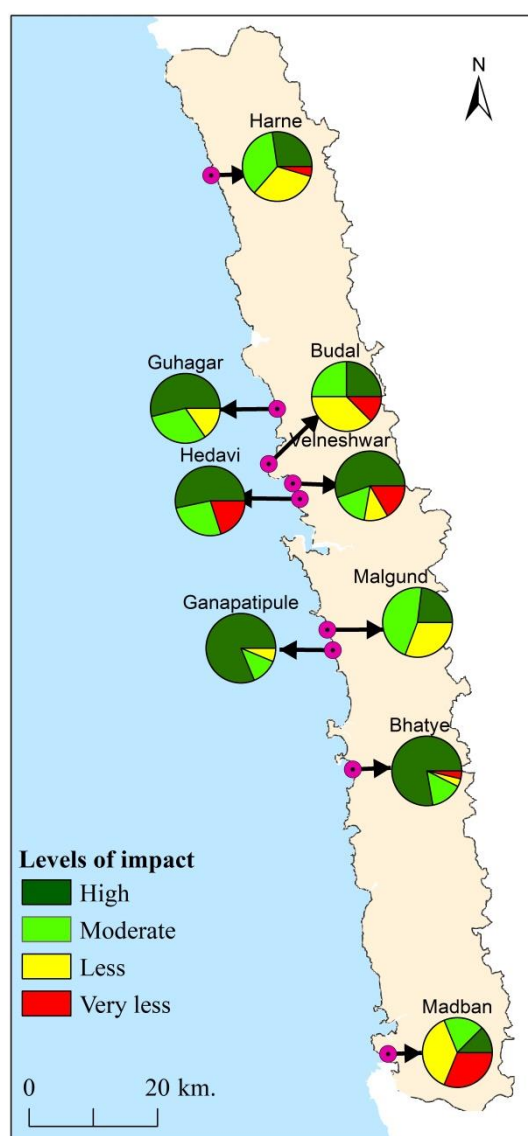


Figure 12. Levels of impact: Immovable properties

Table 11. Levels of impact: Immovable properties

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	27.27	36.36	31.82	4.55
Guhagar	53.85	30.77	15.38	0.00
Budal	25.00	25.00	37.50	12.50
Velneshwar	55.56	16.67	11.11	16.67
Hedavi	20.00	26.67	33.33	20.00
Malgund	23.08	46.15	30.77	0.00
Bhatye	77.78	14.81	3.70	3.70
Ganapatipule	81.25	12.50	6.25	0.00
Madban	12.50	18.75	37.50	31.25
Total	41.81	25.30	23.04	9.85

scientific properties to define the weights criteria through pairwise judgment and sub-criterion score (Raha *et al.*, 2021; Navale and Bhagat, 2021b). Some of the researchers like Zolekar and Bhagat (2015), Ghamgosar *et al.* (2016), Gaikwad and Bhagat (2017), Navale *et al.*, (2021) and Navale and Bhagat (2021b) have used the AHP techniques for assessment of land and tourism sites. The scholars have used the AHP techniques to produce the statistics and addition of data for detection of suitable sites for tourism activities by using the overlaying the weighting value considered for criteria and sub-criteria (Asmamaw and Gidey, 2018; Ebrahimi *et al.*, 2019). The AHP techniques mostly used to define dominance and weighting between data layers its result set to the site selection problem. AHP are determined the judgment-construction and assessment process to define judgment structure, with executive features and principles. AHP is a method that rationally conglomerates statistics, knowledge, specific judgments and anticipations (Gumusay *et al.*, 2016). It is extra flexible method with composite correctness in site suitability to land (Zolekar and Bhagat, 2015). Wijnmalen and Wedley (2008) stated that criteria ranks selected to be reversed giving to additions and demarcation of criterion. However, definite opinions about ranks and weights assigned to selected criterion in the existing investigation illustrations prejudgment verdict fair by the respondent. Thus, AHP techniques have been used for robust judgment of rank and calculation of weights for criterion and assignment of the score for sub-criterion (Navale and Bhagat, 2021b). AHP technique used for impact assessment of coastal tourism can be defined into five phases i.e. 1) ranking, 2) pairwise comparison matrix, 3) calculation of weights, 4) determination of score and 5) weighted analysis.

3.4.1 Ranking

The multi-criteria decision-making (MCDM) are used for analysis of selected criteria for understand the impact assessment of coastal tourism (Klein *et al.*, 2004; Wanyonyi *et al.*, 2016; Gaikwad and Bhagat, 2018; Raha *et al.*, 2021; Navale and Bhagat, 2021b). Computable and qualitative techniques have been commonly used for determination of ranks to the selected criteria for weighted evaluates (Gaikwad and Bhagat, 2018). Priskin (2001) has used experts' decision for assessment of scenic beauty and natural resources. Ghamgosar (2011) stated that experts' opinion is essential for classification and standardization of the selected criteria. The experts' opinion is complex in the MCDA method. Experts must have sufficient information of the tourism activities in the region besides of the prospective influences of environment change to sustainable tourism administration and policy (Michailidou *et al.*, 2016). The suitable assessment to selected criteria in the study area are mostly rest on the decision assessments from authorities but definite cases, here is the assignment of statistics simplicity of practice almost the calculation criteria (Gyinyaye *et al.*, 2017). Mishra *et al.* (2015) and Moreno (2010) stated that AHP techniques mostly based on experts' judgment but its sometime are individual. If such judgments are incorrect of selected criteria be able to simply taken to the weight assignment or deficiency of specificity. However, the particular experts' opinion is an important stage mostly in the condition of statistics insufficiency, uncertainty and conflict (Murali *et al.*, 2013).

The selected criteria ranked by the 44 experts working in government sector, industries and research in the field of geography, ecotourism and agro-tourism with help of questionnaires sent as online in Google form for impact assessment of coastal tourism on socioeconomic development in this region (Chen and Bau, 2016). The experts' opinions were used for determination of ranks (1 to 9) of selected criteria. Accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care facilities, business are impacting more on tourism activities and ranked 1-4, respectively. The criteria viz. employability (5), standard of living (6) and cultural values (7) show less impact on tourism activities in the region. Agriculture and fishery, an immovable properties show relatively less significance in the development and assigned 8 and 9 ranks (Table 12).

3.4.2 Pairwise Comparison Matrix (PCM)

In the projected technique, the weights of the selection criteria are determined by pairwise comparison matrices using AHP (Pourebrahima *et al.*, 2011). The MCDM technique and Pairwise Comparison Matrix (PCM) are important for impact assessment of coastal tourism in the region. AHP technique was used for preparing the PCM for calculation of specific comparative significance of the selected criteria in suitable sites (Mishra *et al.*, 2015). The normalized weights for

selected criteria were intended affording the implication of criteria in tourism (Brilha, 2016) for calculation of impact for tourism on socioeconomic development in the region (Saaty, 1987; Burak *et al.*, 2004) based on ranks assigned (1-9) to the selected criteria (Table 13).

3.4.3 Calculation of Weights

The AHP-OS (Analytic Hierarchy Process-Online System) technique was used to calculate the weights based PCM technique into the four phases: 1) decision formation, 2) ranking, 3) normalized pairwise comparison matrix, and 4) calculation of weights (Zolekar and Bhagat, 2015; Navale and Bhagat, 2021b). The following equation used for calculation of weights:

$$Ec_i = \frac{W_c}{EW_s} \times 100 \quad (1)$$

Ec_i = Normalized influence of the criteria; W_c = Sum of PCA values in row; EW_s = Total of PCA values all criteria.

The expert's opinion was the base of ranking the selected criteria and its calculation of weights in the pairwise comparison matrix. The pairwise comparison matrix cell was continued to find the cell values in normalized pairwise comparison matrix (Table 14) (Navale and Bhagat, 2021b). Pairwise comparison matrix computes the specific weights of criteria prejudiced by uniformity judgments of score of the criteria. The CR calculates the consistency of the judgments and shortens the consideration of feasible inaccuracies (Saaty, 1977).

$$CR = \frac{CI}{RI} \quad (2)$$

CR= Consistency ratio; CI= Consistency index; RI= Random Index.

The CR value <0.10 illustration significant consistency and the value >0.10 illustrations inconsistencies (Saaty, 1977; Zolekar and Bhagat, 2015; Mansour *et al.*, 2020; Navale *et al.*, 2021; Navale and Bhagat, 2021b). The following equation is used for calculation of CI:

$$CI = \lambda_{max} - n / (n - 1) \quad (3)$$

The calculated CR is 0.07 showing (CI value 0.10) significant consistency in the calculated values for selected criteria for impact assessment of coastal tourism in the region.

Table 12. Ranking

Criteria	Ranks
Accessibility / connectivity	1
Amenities	2
Health care facilities	3
Business	4
Employability	5
Standard of living	6
Cultural value	7
Agriculture and fisheries	8
Immovable properties	9

Table 13. Pairwise comparison matrix

Criteria	Accessibility/ connectivity	Amenities	Health care facilities	Business	Employability	Standard of living	Cultural value	Agriculture and fisheries	Immovable properties
Accessibility / Connectivity	1/1	2/1	3/1	4/1	5/1	6/1	7/1	8/1	9/1
Amenities	1/2	2/2	3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2	7/2	8/2	9/2
Health care facilities	1/3	2/3	3/3	4/3	5/3	6/3	7/3	8/3	9/3
Business	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4	5/4	6/4	7/4	8/4	9/4
Employability	1/5	2/5	3/5	4/5	5/5	6/5	7/5	8/5	9/5
Standard of living	1/6	2/6	3/6	4/6	5/6	6/6	7/6	8/6	9/6
Cultural value	1/7	2/7	3/7	4/7	5/7	6/7	7/7	8/7	9/7
Agriculture and fisheries	1/8	2/8	3/8	4/8	5/8	6/8	7/8	8/8	9/8
Immovable properties	1/9	2/9	3/9	4/9	5/9	6/9	7/9	8/9	9/9

Table 14. Normalized pairwise comparisons matrix

Criteria	Accessibility / connectivity	Amenities	Health care facilities	Business	Employability	Standard of living	Cultural Value	Agriculture and fisheries	Immovable properties	Sum	weight	Influence (%)
Accessibility / Connectivity	1/1	2/1	3/1	4/1	5/1	6/1	7/1	8/1	9/1	45.00	0.35	35
Amenities	1/2	2/2	3/2	4/2	5/2	6/2	7/2	8/2	9/2	22.50	0.18	18
Health care facilities	1/3	2/3	3/3	4/3	5/3	6/3	7/3	8/3	9/3	15.00	0.12	12
Business	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4	5/4	6/4	7/4	8/4	9/4	11.25	0.09	9
Employability	1/5	2/5	3/5	4/5	5/5	6/5	7/5	8/5	9/5	9.00	0.07	7
Standard of living	1/6	2/6	3/6	4/6	5/6	6/6	7/6	8/6	9/6	7.50	0.06	6
Cultural value	1/7	2/7	3/7	4/7	5/7	6/7	7/7	8/7	9/7	6.43	0.05	5
Agriculture and fisheries	1/8	2/8	3/8	4/8	5/8	6/8	7/8	8/8	9/8	5.63	0.04	4
Immovable properties	1/9	2/9	3/9	4/9	5/9	6/9	7/9	9/9	9	5.00	0.04	4
Sum	2.83	5.66	8.49	11.3	14.14	16.97	19.8	22.63	25.5	127.3	1.00	100

Table 15. Weights and scores

Criteria	Weights	Influence (%)	Beaches	Scores (1 to 10 scale)			
				High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Accessibility and connectivity	0.35	35	Harne	2	4	3	1
			Guhagar	5	5	0	0
			Budal	0	1	8	2
			Velneswar	3	4	1	1
			Hedavi	3	4	3	0
			Malgund	6	2	2	0
			Bhate	6	3	1	1
			Ganpatipule	7	1	1	1
			Madban	0	1	7	2
Amenities	0.18	18	Harne	5	3	1	1
			Guhagar	6	1	3	0
			Budal	0	3	7	0
			Velneswar	6	3	1	0
			Hedavi	3	6	1	0
			Malgund	3	3	4	0
			Bhate	4	2	1	3
			Ganpatipule	7	2	0	0
			Madban	2	1	2	4
Health care facilities	0.12	12	Harne	3	4	1	1
			Guhagar	5	2	2	0
			Budal	0	1	9	0
			Velneswar	5	1	4	0
			Hedavi	3	4	3	0
			Malgund	2	4	3	1
			Bhate	5	3	1	1
			Ganpatipule	6	3	1	0
			Madban	1	2	2	4
Business	0.09	9	Harne	4	3	1	1
			Guhagar	6	4	0	0
			Budal	0	2	7	0
			Velneswar	4	4	1	1
			Hedavi	1	8	1	0
			Malgund	2	3	2	3
			Bhate	4	6	1	0
			Ganpatipule	6	2	2	0
			Madban	1	1	6	1
Employability	0.07	7	Harne	3	1	4	2
			Guhagar	4	3	3	0
			Budal	0	4	2	4
			Velneswar	4	5	0	1
			Hedavi	1	3	6	0
			Malgund	4	3	2	1
			Bhate	3	4	3	1
			Ganpatipule	6	4	1	0
			Madban	2	1	1	5
Standard of living	0.06	6	Harne	3	5	1	1
			Guhagar	5	4	1	0
			Budal	0	1	2	6
			Velneswar	4	2	3	1
			Hedavi	1	9	1	0
			Malgund	4	3	3	0
			Bhate	4	5	1	1
			Ganpatipule	7	2	1	0
			Madban	2	2	5	0
			Harne	2	4	1	3

Cultural value	0.05	5	Guhagar	4	2	3	1
			Budal	0	2	1	7
			Velneswar	1	3	1	2
			Hedavi	1	5	4	0
			Malgund	2	5	1	1
			Bhate	4	3	2	1
			Ganpatipule	6	3	1	0
			Madban	4	1	5	0
			Harne	7	2	1	0
			Guhagar	5	2	4	0
Agriculture and fisheries	0.04	4	Budal	1	1	3	4
			Velneswar	6	3	2	0
			Hedavi	3	2	4	1
			Malgund	3	5	2	0
			Bhate	6	2	2	1
			Ganpatipule	6	1	1	1
			Madban	2	5	2	0
			Harne	3	4	3	1
			Guhagar	5	3	2	0
			Budal	5	2	2	0
Immovable properties	0.04	4	Velneswar	6	2	1	2
			Hedavi	5	3	0	2
			Malgund	2	5	3	0
			Bhate	8	1	1	1
			Ganpatipule	8	1	1	0
			Madban	1	2	4	3

3.4.4 Weighted Analysis

Mikulic (2015) stated that weights are important influence on the classifications of analyzed provinces and conditional decision. Weighted analysis techniques is applied to analysis the impact assessment of selected criterion to the study area were used the calculated weight of each criterion based on 1 to 10 score considering effective influences in hierarchy of certain inputs (Mansour *et al.*, 2020; Ronizi *et al.*, 2020; Raha *et al.*, 2021). The AHP weighting is mostly determined through the judgment-producers who conduct PCM to afford a foundation of assessment among two indices (Zhang *et al.*, 2011). The weights and scores calculated and allotted to criteria for impact assessment of coastal tourism (Mansour *et al.*, 2020). The impact of coastal tourism on socioeconomic development was classified into four categories: High, moderate, less and very less. The cell values of respectively input score are multiplied by their weights to give influence of criteria in defining the levels of impact of coastal tourism in the coastal region of Ratnagiri district (Cengiz and Akbulak, 2009; Ghamgosar *et al.*, 2011, Navale and Bhagat, 2021b).

$$T_p = \sum_{i=1}^n W_i X_i \quad (4) \quad (\text{Cengiz and Akbulak, 2009})$$

where, T_p = Tourism potential in the region,

W_i = AHP based calculated weight for selected criterion,

X_i = Score of sub-criteria of i^{th} criterion,

n = Number of criteria selected for impact assessment.

The calculated values were classified into high, moderate, less and very less categories tourism impact on socioeconomic development in the region.

3.5 Validity

Validity is significant to understand the applicability and limitation of results obtain from analysis of primary data. Validity interprets precision of data and the procedures used for analysis with the fact consistency in accuracy. It used to understand the uniformity and diversity of different parameters in development process estimated based on information gathered through survey (Masadeh *et al.*, 2017). The scholars like Jangra *et al.* (2021), Sousa *et al.* (2014), Sun *et al.* (2019), Chiu *et al.* (2016), etc. have used different statistical techniques viz. ANOVA test, chi-square, Z-score, student t-test for validation results obtained in analysis of socioeconomic aspects. Jangra *et al.* (2021) have used ANOVA test to understand variations in perception of respondent about selected criteria. ANOVA test was calculated as a consistency parameter to check the overall internal uniformity consistency of a set of parameter. The results of investigation were compared at 0.05 level of significance in present research area (Jangra *et al.*, 2021).

Table 16. ANOVA: Single factor

Beaches	Impact assessment (%)												
	Count	High			Moderate			Less			Very less		
		Sum	Average	Variance	Sum	Average	Variance	Sum	Average	Variance	Sum	Average	Variance
Harne	9	331.36	36.82	249.27	307.27	34.14	115.72	165.00	18.33	132.96	96.37	10.71	72.05
Guhagar	9	453.85	50.43	75.61	261.54	29.06	189.02	176.92	19.66	208.75	7.69	0.85	6.57
Budal	9	62.50	6.94	277.78	181.25	20.14	105.25	425.00	47.22	821.40	231.25	25.69	795.36
Velneswar	9	427.78	47.53	78.03	261.11	29.01	175.74	138.89	15.43	129.46	72.23	8.03	47.16
Hedavi	9	180.00	20.00	111.11	433.34	48.15	619.74	253.33	28.15	341.97	33.33	3.70	56.79
Malgund	9	284.62	31.62	184.08	338.46	37.61	124.91	223.08	24.79	70.68	53.85	5.98	100.26
Bhatye	9	433.34	48.15	243.50	288.88	32.10	226.36	111.18	12.35	65.02	66.66	7.41	75.45
Ganpatipule	9	591.25	65.69	72.31	201.25	22.36	88.06	88.75	9.86	33.38	18.75	2.08	19.53
Madban	9	176.79	19.64	118.78	170.54	18.95	163.58	350.89	38.99	421.72	201.79	22.42	417.02

Table 17. ANOVA: Single factor

Levels of impact	Source of Variation	Sums of square	df	MS	F	P-value	F-critical value
High	Between group	24814.65	8	3101.83	19.79	2.03E-15	2.07
	Within groups	11283.80	72	156.72			
	Total	36098.45	80				
Moderate	Between group	6193.01	8	774.13	3.85	0.000802	2.07
	Within groups	14467.10	72	200.93			
	Total	20660.10	80				
Less	Between group	11173.57	8	1396.70	5.65	1.45E-05	2.07
	Within groups	17802.59	72	247.26			
	Total	28976.16	80				
Very less	Between group	5514.49	8	689.31	3.90	0.000717	2.07
	Within groups	12721.60	72	176.69			
	Total	18236.09	80				

4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

AHP technique was used for impact assessment of coastal tourism on socioeconomic development in coastal zone in Ratnagiri District, Maharashtra (India). The experts' opinions were used to select and scale out the influences of selected criteria including connectivity and accessibility, amenities, health care facilities, local businesses, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, and immovable properties. All these criteria selected based on literature review and experts' opinions for collection of data. AHP based weighted analysis was used for impact analysis of tourism activities on socioeconomic development with classification into four categories (Figure 13): 1) high, 2) moderate, 3) less, and 4) very less. The present impact analysis is in 'view of respondents' with local variations within selected beaches.

4.1 High Impact

About 35.55% respondents reported higher impact of tourism on socioeconomic development in the coastal zone of Ratnagiri district. The Ganpatipule (67.72%), Guhagar (51.91%), Bhatye (46.88%), Velneshwar (43.18%) and Malgund (39.07%) are highly developed sites for tourism and economic activities (Table 18 and 19). The less variance values estimated for Ganpatipule (72.31%), Guhagar (75.61%), and Velneshwar (78.03%) beaches compared to the other beaches show uniformity within for selected parameters showing higher impact on the development (Figure 13 and Table 18). These beaches show developed facilities like connectivity and accessibility, health care, financial services, more employability, health care facilities, local businesses, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, and immovable properties, etc. as compare to other beaches.

Further, less development was reported by respondents for Hedavi, Madban, Malgund, Bhatye and

Harne beaches. Hedavi (111.11%), Madban (118.78%), Malgund (184.08%), Bhatye (243.50%), Harne (249.27%) and Budal (277.78%) show higher values of variance indicating variability diversity in contribution of parameters in development processes. The parameters viz. accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care facilities, local business, employability, cultural values contribute more than the standard of living, agriculture and fisheries, immovable properties in this process of development.

The calculated value of *F*-statistic (19.79) is < critical value for *d.f.* (n-1) (2.07) at 0.05 significance level means rejecting the *H₀* and accepting the *H₁*. It shows significant relationship between the parameters of socioeconomic development in the beach area. Therefore, efficient planning and management needed for the parameters viz. accessibility and connectivity, local business and employability for optimal development through tourism activities in the area of Bhatye, Harne and Budal beaches.

4.2 Moderate Impact

About 29.14 % respondents informed moderate impact for beaches like Hedavi (48.48%) and Harne (35.62%) sites on economic development. Variance value estimated for Hedavi (619.74%) at higher level indicating more contribution cultural value in socioeconomic development whereas variance value for Harne (115.72%) beach at lower level showing uniformity in contribution for the development. Therefore, development of accessibility and connectivity, health care facilities, local business will be helpful to achieve higher socioeconomic development at Hedavi beach and uniform efforts for improvement in all criteria at Harne (115.72 %). Similarly, Budal (105.25%), Harne (115.72 %), Malgund (124.91%), Madban (163.58 %) and Bhatye (226.36%) show

Table 18. Level of impact of tourism on socioeconomic development

Beaches	Levels of impact (%)			
	High	Moderate	Less	Very less
Harne	32.61	35.62	20.28	11.49
Guhagar	51.91	33.12	14.47	0.50
Budal	1.20	17.47	62.84	18.50
Velneshwar	43.18	33.86	15.12	7.84
Hedavi	25.26	48.48	25.07	1.19
Malgund	39.07	30.42	25.41	5.11
Bhatye	46.88	29.66	11.54	11.91
Ganpatipule	67.72	19.05	9.24	3.98
Madban	12.14	14.60	47.22	26.04
Total	35.55	29.14	25.69	9.62

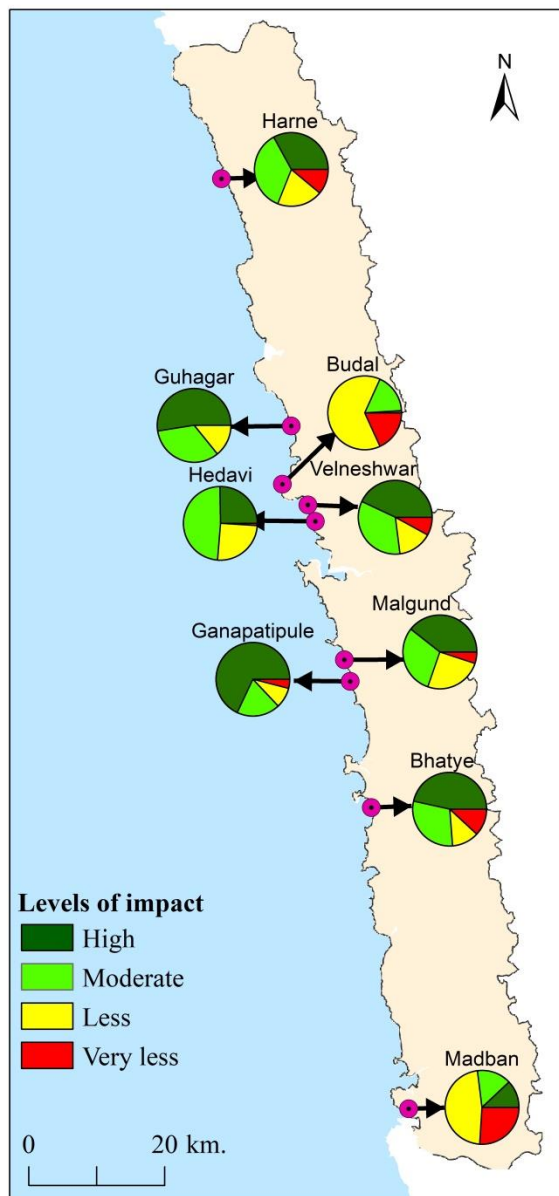


Figure 13. Tourism impact on socioeconomic development

moderate impact on development with lesser variance values indicating requirement of improvement in all criteria for the development. The calculated value F -statistic (3.85) is < critical value for $d.f.$ (n-1) (2.07) at 0.05 significance level. The H_0 is rejected and H_1 accepted showing significant relationship between the parameters of socioeconomic development in the beach area.

4.3 Less Impact

About 25.69% respondents are reported less impact of tourism activities on development in the region. However, 47.22% and 62.84% respondents informed less impact for Madban and Budal beaches. Higher variance values 341.97%, 421.72% and 821.40% for Hedavi, Madban and Budal beaches indicating

requirements of selective efforts for some parameters e.g. accessibility and connectivity, amenities and health care facilities of development. Budal and Madban beaches show more potential of tourism but poor facilities like accessibility, connectivity, required amenities and services with poor employability and standard of living of native people. The variance values estimated for Ganpatipule (33.38 %), Bhatye (65.02%) and Malgund (70.68 %) beaches are less showing uniformity in the parameters in the development. Therefore, efforts for development require uniformly for all selected parameters to achieve socioeconomic development in the area. The calculated value F -statistic (5.65) is < critical value for $d.f.$ (n-1) (2.07) at 0.05 significance level, its means rejecting the H_0 and accepting the H_1 .

4.4 Very Less Impact

About 9.62% respondents reported very less impact of tourism activities in the process of development in the region. Guhagar (0.50 %), Hedavi (1.19%), Ganapatipule (3.98%), Malgund (5.19%) and Velneshwar (7.84%) are reported as very less developed (Table 18 and 19). The variance values are also less for these beaches as Guhagar (6.57 %), Ganapatipule (19.53%), Velneshwar (47.16%) and Hedavi (56.79) beaches indicating uniformity of all parameters in the process of development and all parameters are under and poorly developed. The calculated value F -statistic (3.90) is < critical value for $d.f.$ (n-1) (2.07) at 0.05 significance level rejecting the H_0 and accepting the H_1 . It shows significant relationship between the parameters of socioeconomic development in the beach area.

The information about the different parameters of socioeconomic development was gathered from native people through structured questionnaires and interviews of selected persons. The criteria selected and the ranking performed based on the experts options collected through the questionnaires circulated during the study period. Therefore, the results may vary according to the selected respondents from native people and experts.

5 CONCLUSIONS

The MCDM-AHP was used for impact assessment of tourism on socioeconomic development in this coastal area with respondents' point of view. Arc GIS (10.2) and Global Mapper software were used for preparation of maps showing spatial distribution of selected criteria information viz. the accessibility and connectivity, amenities, health care facilities, business, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, immovable properties. The responses from native people were recorded using questionnaires through conducted interviews at selected beaches. The literature review, fieldwork and experts' opinions are fundamental keys to select the criteria and determination of ranks. The scores (1-10) were assigned based on spatial distribution (classes) of selected criteria for impact assessment of tourism activities on

Table 19. Impact characteristics for tourism development

Levels of impact	Characteristics	Remarks
High	About 35.55% respondents have reported impact of tourism on socioeconomic development at comparatively level. The Ganpatipule (67.72 %), Guhagar (51.91%), Bhatye (46.88%), Velneshwar (43.18%) and Malgund (39.07%) are highly developed including connectivity and accessibility, health facilities, amenities, financial services, income level, education, recreation opportunities, quality of services etc. These localities are efficiently connected to the district headquarter and urban area. The growth in business and employability are observed more at these places. The tourism development in this region incredibly influencing the standard of living of locale people. These beaches show tradition cultural and various festivals. Cultural uniqueness are observed particular Ganpatipule and Velneshwar beaches.	The amenities and facilities are more suitable for development of tourism activities at Ganpatipule and Guhagar than Velneshwar, Bhatye and Malgund beaches.
Moderate	About 29.14 % showing moderate impact are recorded like Hedavi (48.48%) and Harne (35.62%) connectivity and accessibility, medical facilities, employability, income and standard of living are moderately observed in this beaches sites. The fishing and horticulture activities are more significant at the Harne beaches. The local business are more favorable to development of tourism activities in this region. Change in immovable properties are moderately observed at selected beaches in this region.	Moderate agro-tourism activities are observed but still need of development of horticulture and fishing activities with well planning and management. The cultural festivals and fishing activities are attraction points of tourists' in the study area.
Less	About 25.69% respondents have reported less impact of tourism activities on the development with variation at Budal (62.84%) and Madban (47.22%) beaches. The Budal and Madban beach is high tourism potential with more scenic beauty are observed in this tourist sites. It's supportive for the development tourism activities. Here, accessibility and connectivity, medical facilities, standard of living, social and cultural uniformity are less developed observed. The tourism activities, employability and medical facilities are less observed in this region.	These beach sites show poor road network, employability, improved stranded of living, income, immovable properties and cultural activities. These beaches show nice natural environment with tourism potential. All amenities and facilities need improvement for the development of tourism activities.
Very less	About 9.62 % respondents show very less impact of tourism in the process of development.	These sites are less suitable for coastal tourism and need proper planning and policy for the development of required amenities and services for tourism development.

socioeconomic development in the study region. About 35.55% respondents reported higher impact of tourism, 29.14% respondents informed moderate impact, 25.69% respondents are reported less impact and 9.62% respondents reported very less impact of tourism activities in the process of development in the region.

The Ganpatipule (67.72%), Guhagar (51.91%), Bhatye (46.88%), Velneshwar (43.18%) and Malgund (39.07%) showed higher development of connectivity and accessibility, amenities, health care facilities, local business, employability, standard of living, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries, immovable properties, etc. Hedavi (48.48%) and Harne (35.62%) beaches showed moderate development of connectivity and accessibility, medical facilities, employability, local business and standard of living. The Budal (62.84%) and Madban (47.22%) beaches showed higher tourism potential with more scenic beauty and less socioeconomic development. The development of reported criteria varies according to the beach area and relative location of the beach on shoreline. The beaches located far South and away from district headquarter show relatively less development. The focus of investment in the area should be concentrated on development of the accessibility and connectivity, required amenities, health care facilities, small-scale business, employability, cultural values, agriculture and fisheries to improve the tourism activities for improving standard of living of native people in the region. The methodology, techniques and results achieved in this study can be useful for planning and monitoring the tourism activities for sustainable and uniform development in the selected and similar areas.

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ABBREVIATIONS

AHP: Analytical Hierarchy Process; **AHP-OS:** Analytic Hierarchy Process-Online System; **df:** degree of freedom; **EIA:** Environment Impact Assessment; **F:** Variance Ratio; **GIS:** Geographical Information System; **H₀:** Alternative Hypothesis; **H₁:** Null Hypotheses; **MCA:** Multi Criteria Analysis; **MCDA:** Multi-criteria decision analysis; **MCDM:** Multi-Criteria Decision Making; **PCM:** Pairwise Comparison Matrix; **SEA:** Strategic Environmental Assessment; **SIO:** Survey of India.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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