



THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM IN EGYPT

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Introduction

Tourism is a major industry and economic sector in Egypt. It is the largest source of foreign exchange earnings in Egypt. The role of tourism industry in the Egyptian economy has been mounting in importance in recent years. Recognizing the immense potential in this respect, the Government has been making every effort to provide the services and facilities necessary for a solid foundation for the development of tourism. Although the travel and tourism industry is growing at a very rapid pace across the World, Egypt has not been able to generate enough revenue through this industry. The problems are very basic and addressable. Not only that, definite actions are not taken, it is the subject matter least discussed in the national economic planning of Egypt. It is not that there is no attraction within the country. Egypt is one of the countries in the world, wherein it has evidences from the earliest civilization to modern day history. But the apathy is that Egypt still has less than 1 percent of market share of world tourism.

Egypt is a land of beauty, art, culture heritage, and people. It has been attracting the rich, poor, traders, knowledge seekers, tourists from the very early years. Egypt has abundant evidence in history to prove that. Over the years Egypt became the seat of power, intelligence, economic strength and, attained an important position in commercial history of the world because of its geographical location. Today the scenario has changed. Egypt has lost to the foreign nationals in terms of tourism inflows. The archaeological sites and the cultural heritage position of Egypt make it one of the world's foremost travel destinations for cultural tourism. It has long been one of the world's premier tourist's destinations. This gives a great challenge to the country because Egypt's economic backwardness can be removed through better tourism management.

Tourism is a resource industry, dependent for its basic appeal upon nature's endowment and society's heritage. The natural appeal of a locality may rest upon one or more of its

physical attributes: the climate, landforms, flora or fauna. The socio-cultural heritage may draw tourists seeking to enjoy centers of learning or entertainment, to visit places of interests or historic significance or to view buildings or ruins of buildings.

Limitation of Study

Tourism as an economic activity is difficult to measure and analysis. Although, abundant data are available at national levels for comprehensive analysis, they are not collected in such a way as to reveal the impact of tourist's expenditures on wide range of goods and services. National accounts focus only on the "hotel" and "restaurants" sector despite that foreign tourists' contribution to gross domestic product (GDP). Tourism expenditures are neither properly reflected in national income statistics nor input / output statistics readily available to use as yardsticks of tourism activity. Contribution of foreign tourists expenditures in other sectors of economy represent only a fraction of their total expenditures in the whole economy. National accounts, therefore, inevitably underestimate tourism's accounting framework, it is not adequately taken for calculation in government policy development. Moreover, it is very difficult to identify exact amount of tourism expenditure on goods and services (Frechtling, 1999). Therefore, contribution of foreign tourist's expenditures to these sectors becomes difficult to separate.

Further, more comprehensive information is in general available on international than on domestic tourism especially concerning expenditure. Domestic tourism, in many countries, predominate, this lack of data is a serious handicap to comprehensive analysis. Both the components of tourism are important for the analysis of economic impact of tourism as well as for future dimension of the tourism industry. Moreover, pressure on resources from domestic tourism and recreational activity is not less significant than from international tourism (Economic Commission For Europe, UN1976).

Objectives of the Study

The present study aims at investigating into the following aspects of the economic impact of tourism in Egypt.

1. To analyze the contribution of foreign tourist's income to the GDP (Gross Domestic Product)
2. To assess the role of tourism in creating the job opportunities in the local market.
3. To identify the share of Egypt in the world tourist arrivals and the trend of international tourist arrivals in Egypt.
4. To highlight the significance of important touristic attraction sites and types of tourism in Egypt.
5. To deal with the importance of Egypt's environment from tourism point of view.

Egypt and Its Environment

Egypt, a country of ancient civilization, occupies the north eastern corner of the African continent. Geographically the country lies between the latitudes 22^o and 32^o north of equator and between the longitudes 24^o and 37^o east of Greenwich line on the globe. Egypt is distinguished for its unique geographical location as well as for its remarkable historic heritage and deep-rooted civilization. It is strategically situated at the cross-roads of the three continents of Asia, Europe and Africa. In this way it commands the approaches of these continents and serves as point of liaison between Arab-Asian and Arab African countries. Egypt is bounded to the north by the Mediterranean Sea, to the east by the Red Sea and its two branches the Gulf of Aqaba and the Gulf of Suez. Egypt has its boundaries on the north east with Palestine and Israel, on the south with the Republic of Sudan, and on the west with Libya (Middle East and North Africa, 2006). The Suez Canal artificially separates the main territory from the Sinai Peninsula.

The Nile River is the most important and dominant topographical feature of Egypt. In the predominantly desert environment, Egyptian national life is remarkably concentrated along the course of the Nile River as it flows from south to north through eastern Egypt. It divides the desert plateau of Egypt into two unequal parts - the Western Desert between the river and the Libyan frontier and the Eastern Desert, extending to the Suez Canal, the Gulf of Suez, and the Red Sea.

The history of Egypt is dominated by the River Nile. It has been the center of one of the oldest civilizations of the world. The Nile is the life line of Egypt and has been revered in Egypt since ancient times. The river is divided into upper Egypt, extending from Wadi Halfa to the south of Cairo, and lower Egypt (Nile Delta) extending from the north of Cairo to the Mediterranean Sea. The rich deltas of the River Nile have sustained the Egyptian economy for thousands of years. The old saying of Herodotus that Egypt is the gift of Nile, still holds the truth. Not surprisingly, more than 90 percent of the Egyptian population owes their existence to the narrow strip of land on either side of the river itself.

The desert of central Sinai is broken by isolated hills and scored by wadis. The southern Sinai is composed of high rise granite mountains with Mount Catherine and Mount Sinai. Mount Catherine of southern Sinai is the highest mountain of

Egypt reaches elevation of 2642 meters (Boniface & Cooper 2001).

Egypt is divided into four main physiographic regions that show great diversity in physical landscape. This resulted variety of fascinating natural beautiful areas of tourist attractions.

Egypt is distinguished for its unique climatic conditions all the year long with sunshine occurring throughout the year. The sky is usually blue and cloudless, and like any desert landscape, Egypt tends to have hot days and cool nights. It is naturally blessed with sunshine from January to December, granting the country its other rightful name, "The Land of Sun". It boasts 360 sunny days per year, and this is something that will never cease to be an attraction for world tourists. Egypt lies within the dry tropical region except for the northern parts that lie within the warm-moderate region, with a semi-Mediterranean climate. Egypt offers phenomenal year round weather characterized by hot dry summers lasting from May to October and moderate winters from November to April with little rainfalls (Egypt, 2006).

The dissimilarity in the topographic features of Egypt causes diversity in the temperature within short horizontal distance. In the coastal regions, temperatures range between an average minimum of 14°C in winter and an average maximum of 30°C in summer. In the hinterland areas, temperatures vary between 7°C at night to 43°C during the day in summer. During winter, temperatures in the desert reach as low as 0°C at night and as high as 18°C during the day. Rainfall is scanty and occurs largely in the winter months. The amount diminishes sharply southward. The Red Sea coastal plain receives very little amount of rainfall or precipitation. Humidity declines noticeably from north to south and on the desert fringes. (Boniface and Cooper, 2001).

Areas of Attraction

Egypt has abundance of tourism resources that provide marketable tourism products in both regional and world markets. In the highly competitive tourism market, a blooming tourism industry can only be sustained by the effective management of existing tourism products and development of new products and attractions. In this regard, product development and management are key tools in the modern tourism industry. The concept of the tourism product covers a wide range of historical, cultural, natural and recreational

activities. Besides these products, special type of attractions and activities are created artificially and on adhoc basis. Example of these attractions are theme parks, exhibitions, festivals and urban activities, such as meetings incentives, connections and other events in addition to various types of entertainment (Egypt, 2007). Currently Egypt's tourist map has completely changed in the wake of ongoing efforts for the enhancement of tourism development. In this respect, the tourism industry managed to create new tourist communities in remote areas with the aim of converting them into tourist attraction sites. Ministry of tourism recently has taken steps to upgrade tourist products and infrastructure to serve wider segment of tourist all over the world. Egypt offers a wide range of exotic locales and ancient heritage that appeal to tourists from all over the world (Fawzy and Ahmad, 1998).

In Egypt tourism has traditionally depended to a great extent on archaeology and history. Egypt, with the aim of promoting tourist attraction and to further broaden and diversify its tourism resources, has introduced different types of tourism namely recreational tourism, religious tourism, therapeutic tourism, desert safari, international conferences and exhibitions tourism, eco-tourism and sports tourism in addition to many recreational and cultural events.

Egypt is an exciting and fascinating tourist destination. Its ancient treasures, the temples, monuments, mummies and pyramids are the great asset of tourist's attraction. Egypt possessed about one third of the world's monuments which rendered it a significant country on the map of international tourism. It has been the centre for the Pharaonic, Greek, Roman, Coptic and Islamic civilizations. Near Cairo the outstanding group of pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx are the main attractions. The largest, the Great Pyramid, was built as the tomb of the Pharaoh khufu, and is one of the seven wonders of Ancient world. The step pyramid of king zoer at Saqqara near Cairo was built about 2737-2717 BC, is most famous and best preserved monument (Egyptian Tourism Authority, 1999).

The impressive temples of Luxor and karnak are on the east bank of the River Nile. In ancient Egypt, the east bank was considered for the living and the west bank for the dead because the sun rises in the east and sets in the west. The city of the Dead and the Valley of the Kings are on west bank of the Nile. (Egyptian Tourism Authority, 1999).

Heliopolis or "City of the Sun" near Cairo, is known for the event of the flight of the Holy Family to avoid the persecution of king Herod. There is a sacred relic in this area "Tree of the Virgin" where the Virgin Mary took shelter on their flight to Egypt.

The Egypt Museum in Cairo holds many of the artifacts of ancient Egypt including the king Tut collection and a number of royal mummies.

Alexandria is famous for its beauty and magnificence and located on the Mediterranean coast with its own unique attractions. Ruins of Greek and Roman Civilizations are open to view. Light house of Alexandria was regarded as one of the Seven Wonders of the World (Amazing Egypt, 2008).

Cruising is an important segment of tourism activity and increasingly attracting the family market. In Egypt, Nile cruises are famous and fascinating. Nile Cruises run between Cairo and Aswan, and between Luxor and Aswan. A Nile cruise is a great way to experience the country and best way to reach the Valley of the Kings. Cruising on the Nile between Luxor and Aswan provides views of steep cliffs as well as ancient temples and statues created at the time of Cleopetra. From Aswan, tourist can take a 1- day excursion to the Great Temple of Abu Simbel, built out of one piece of stone, a mountain (Amazing Egypt 2008).

Recreational and beach tourism attract increasingly large number of tourists in Egypt. Egypt's excellent sandy beaches along with both the Mediterranean and the Red Sea coastlines attract tourists seeking a fresh travel experience with plenty of sunshine. (Egypt, open for Business, 2000).

Egypt currently has a number of sites and activities that cater to the sports tourist. The sports tourism market consists of two distinct components. One is travel for active participation in a sport or event, the other is travel to view an events. Egypt's relative stability provides excellent venues for sporting events in the underutilized West Asia market. Egypt offers golf, sea surfing scuba diving, mountain biking, horse riding, shooting etc. the most important sporting tourist sites are Cairo, al-Gezira, Luxor, Al-wadi al-Gadid "the New Valley" in Egypt's Western Dessert, Sharm el-Sheikh, Hurghada and Taba on the Red Sea coast. Hiking, desert trekking and camel treks are available in desert areas.

The health and wellness segment, which includes activities ranging from spa treatment to surgery, is growing world wide. Egypt has numerous sulphuric and mineral springs,

which have therapeutic properties for a variety of ailments. Important curative sites are Helwan, Ein al-Seera, Hurghada, Fayyoun Oases, Aswan, Sinai and Sofaga on the Red Sea coast (Egyptian Tourist Authority 2003).

Eco-tourism is a dynamic market where preservation and conservation are central to the destination's appeal. Egypt has world wide fame nature reserves viz Ra's Mohammad, Siant Catherine and Naqab in south Sinai (Shoalan, 2005).

The vast desert and mountains provide opportunities for fun and adventures by safari tourists. Safari tourism in Egypt is available in Saint Catherine, Mount Moses, al-Dakhla and al-Kharga oasis, al-Ein as-Sokhnam, al-Qoseir, Sharm el-Sheikh and Safaga.

Biodiversity is considered as an important attraction for tourism in Egypt. Geographical location, climatologically and geological formations provide for a tremendous diversity of habitats, including some of the oldest distribution of species, communities and coral reefs. Egypt has thousands of kilometers of coral reef. The Red Sea coast alone has 1000 species of sea life and over 400 varieties of coral. In the Hurghada and Sufaga regions of the Red Sea, Tourist can dive with dolphins in Fanadir and Fanous (Egypt, open for Business, 2001).

Egypt enjoys reputation as one of the world's top diving spots. Gulf of Aqaba is a water lover's paradise, with the Red Sea providing unmatched scuba diving and calm waters for activities such as jet skiing and sailing. Sharm el-Sheikh is the biggest diving centre of Egypt. It is both a summer and winter international resort adored by lovers of fishing tourism and diving (Egypt open for Business 2006).

Egypt is indeed a land of contrasts and comprised of many striking phases of long history which are seen clearly in the monuments and depicted in ancient art. A glimpse at Egypt's rich past is the most important attraction for tourists.

Tourism Income

Tourism is an important sector of economy in Egypt. From macroeconomics perspective the tourism has great impact on the national economy in Egypt. It has become the most important of all its export commodities, and currently the primary source of foreign currency of the national economy. Tourism is one of the catalysts of comprehensive development in Egypt. In addition, due to its multiplier effect, seventy other feeder and complementary industries, and services are linked

to it and affected by its growth. Currently the tourist industry is contributing 11.3 percent to the GDP, and employing 12.6 percent of the Egyptian work force (Ministry of Economic Development 2006/2007).

Tourism receipts, in many ways, are considered a more critical indicator than international tourist arrivals. Income from foreign tourism in the form of foreign exchange earnings adds to the national income and as an invisible export, may offset a loss on the visible trading account. Hence, tourism receipts carry critical importance in the overall financial reckoning.

In terms of tourism receipts, Egypt's average annual growth rate between 1995 – 2000 was 10 percent, whereas west Asia's average was 6.5 percent, showing 3.5 percent higher than the region's average growth rate. Probably difference in revenue per visitor is the main reason for Egypt's higher average growth rate. In 2002, Egypt earned US \$ 780 per tourist arrival, whereas average per tourist arrival of West Asia and World were US \$485 and US \$ 675 respectively (World Tourism Organization 2004).

Tourist receipts in Egypt have been steadily increasing between the years 1998-2000 at an average rate of 1.40 percent, but this increase came to an abrupt end in 2001, when tourist receipts fell by 26.11 percent, as can be seen in Table- 1.

The major cause in the slow down of this sector was the events of 11 September 2001. Nevertheless tourist receipts increased by an impressive rate of 9.82 percent between 2001 - 2002. During 2003, tourist receipts reached £E 4154.6 million and increase of 8.61 percent compared to a year earlier. Tourism income in Egypt registered an average annual growth rate of 7.28 percent over the period 1996-2004 (Central Bank of Egypt, 2005).

Tourism's contribution to the Egyptian economy is illustrated by the direct industry impact of 2.33 percent of the total GDP in 2004 (Central Bank of Egypt, 2005). We see that the revenue generation through tourism is very dismal. This figure under estimate the effect of foreign tourists expenditures on Egyptian goods and services. Foreign tourists spends on an average 30-40percent of their total spending on accommodation, and food and beverage. The remaining 60-70 percent filters into other sector of economy such as transportation, recreational, services, retail and others. Thus, direct and indirect impact of tourism industry on the Egyptian economy is mounting. Its contribution to GDP is significant

and readily quantifiable. However, it is difficult to evaluate the effect of foreign tourist's total expenditures on goods and services.

Tourism income depends on many factors. These include the numbers of tourists, the length of their stay in the country, their nationalities, the reason for the tour, in addition to the supply of tourism products and services that meet the tourist's demands.

Tourist Arrivals

Tourist arrivals explain the growth and demand of tourism. Although growth in tourist arrivals in Egypt is impressive, its percentage share of the total world tourism is dismally low, as shown in Table - 2.

Egypt's share to world tourist flow is less than one percent. Egypt spends quite large amount in tourism, but still it has not been able to generate the required returns. There is no doubt that the events of 11 September caused a major interruption to the growth of world tourism. Other factors such as Iraq conflict, SARS out break, terrorist attack also negatively affected the international tourist flow. According to the World Tourism Organization (WTO) international tourist arrival declined by 1.2 percent to reach 694 million in 2003 compared to a year earlier. Asia and Pacific witnessed sharp fall of 9 percent in arrivals as a result of the SARS Panic. Surprisingly, West Asia and Africa recorded the best result and registered 10.3 percent and 4.9 percent increases in international tourists arrivals for 2003 (World Tourism Organization, 2004).

Egypt, at least temporarily, also followed the trend of post 9/11 growth. International tourist arrivals and receipts both declined form 2000 to 2001 by 23.17 percent and 26.11 percent respectively (Table - 3). However, recovery in both tourist arrivals and receipts followed in 2002. In 2003, both arrivals and receipts have risen by 6.44 percent and 8.64 percent from the previous year (Central Bank of Egypt, 2004).

The WTO Tourism 2020 vision forecasts that Egypt will remain the largest tourist receiving country within the West Asian region. Forecast for international tourist arrivals to Egypt show that there will be over 17 million arrivals in 2020, which represents an annual growth rate of 7.4 percent over the period 1995-2020. This is above the average growth of West Asia (7.1 percent) and the World (4.1 percent) during the same period. The WTO has indicated that Egypt is amongst the nine of the thirty top emerging destination countries in

West Asia and North Africa. During the period 1995-2002 average annual growth rate of international tourist arrivals for the West Asian region and the World were 12.2 percent and 7 percent respectively. However, Egypt achieved average annual growth for the same period of only 7.9 percent (WTO 2020 vision). It may be noted that achieving a high growth rate of 15 to 20 percents over the period 2008-2020 would be quite challenge for Egypt.

Table-4 explains the international tourist arrivals by regions and their average length of stay. Tourists from Europe and West Asia dominate the Egyptian market. America contributes only 3.05percent of the total arrivals in Egypt. In terms of tourist nights, 2005 saw a total of 85 million nights, an increase of 7percent compared to 2004, with average length of stay of more than 10 days. In 2004 average length of stay was 10.1 nights compared with 8.7 nights in 2003 (Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade).

Employment

Unfortunately, there is no single source of data on total employment in tourism sector. Tourism activities are included in the broad category of commerce, comprising the wholesale and retail trade, construction, transportation and industrial activities, hotels and restaurants, which makes it difficult to measure the exact impact of tourism on the employment level. In 2003, there were 2,53,000 employees working in the tourism industry, showing an increase of 38.75 percent from the previous year level. Back in 1994 there were 1,36,000 employees working in tourism industry whereas in 2004 this number increased to 2,69,000, representing 97.8 percent growth. Employment in this sector of economy has grown at an average growth rate of 1.29 percent over the period 1997-2004. In 2004, the share of tourism sector comprised 8.6 percent in total productive service sector. And the share of productive service sector in total employment during the same year constituted as 16.19 percent (Central Bank of Egypt, 1993-2005).

The commodity sector in 2004 including agriculture, industry, construction, mining and electricity employed about 49.66 percent of the Egyptian labour force working in the local market. The productive service sectors and social service sector accounted for 16.19 percent and 34.14 percent respectively. Hence we see that the social service and productive sectors employ more than 50 percent of the

Egyptian manpower working in Egypt (Economic and Social Development plan).

From the table-4, one can also notice that the percentage of the labour force working in Tourism, hotel and restaurants has increased from 5.27 percent in 2000 to 8.62 percent in 2004. Such increase is due to rise in investments in tourism sector. Various new projects and developments are underway to diversify Egypt's tourism product. The Egyptian government, to support the nation's tourism expansion strategy, has encouraged private and foreign investors that raised the expectations of investors of the future of tourism in Egypt. Major investors from the Gulf, Europe, and Egypt are already involved in tourism-related sectors such as construction, tourist villages, restaurants, hotels and rest houses, real estate and transportation. The economic reform programme of the Egyptian government resulted the increase in the number of companies operating in the tourism sector from 86 in 1994 to 1365 in 2003. By the end of 2006 about 557 tourist projects have been launched at an investment cost of £E 19.7 billion (General Authority for Investment and Free Zones).

The purpose of these projects were to enhance vibrant tourism industry and to establish robust infrastructure, turning the desert and the coast of the Mediterranean and the Red Sea, and Sinai into tourist attraction sites, putting an end to the isolation of those vast areas from the valley and converting them into economic, developed tourist centers.

Conclusions

The tourism industry is the leading productive sector and most effective contributor to the Egyptian economy. This importance is likely to increase in the future as tourism is an economic imperative for the sustainable development.

To attract a significant number of tourist arrivals, decision makers should extend their endeavors to include the improvement and diversification of tourism products. Keen competition in the world tourism market makes it essential that Egyptian government should institute effective marketing policies and enhance its tourism activities. Special events, national events and promotional campaigns would prove useful in this respect.

Despite the presence of magnificent tourism resources to attract all kinds of tourists from around the world, Egypt is not getting enough of the market share in the international tourism. Its percentage share of the total world tourism is dismally low. Even revenue generation through tourism is too very cheerless. Income figures attest these facts. Most of the Egyptian lands are still virgin, unexplored lands. Egypt is way behind in tourism and can create tremendous opportunity for the people and the industry. It needs to create more entertainment at sites and must organize more special events such as art festivals, music, and drama performance in order to encourage tourists to stay longer in the country. Festivals focusing on important historical and religious events along with major sports contests can attract many domestic and international tourists.

Egypt has potential to become leading tourist destination in the world. Certain measures are required to achieve this goal. Egypt will need to define its image in brand terms and then resource the task of re-establishing itself as a secure, safe, and welcoming destination. The objective will be to attract the majority of visitors from the higher demographic groups that will give the best yield and make best use of the existing investment and product.

What is needed is a clear cut strategy and plan to market Egypt as a tourism destination. Egyptian tourism industry is faced with multiple challenges, which must be overcome before it look into the plan of action. The dynamics of global tourism and the increasing demands from tourists also require realignment of the Egyptian tourist product. Flexibility in policies, faster actions, better infrastructure are essential for the Egyptian tourism industry.

Suggestions

In view of the crucial role of tourism in the economy of Egypt, it merits greater attention by decision makers and requires further promotion. The following recommendations concentrate on tourism sector.

1. Aggressive marketing strategy should be adopted to promote Egyptian Tourism in the international market.
2. The campaign under the banner of "nothing compares to Egypt" or "Incredible Egypt" will help to position Egypt as a global brand to take advantage the burgeoning global travel

and trade and the vast untapped potential of Egypt as a destination.

3. Foreign collaboration and entry into Egyptian markets should be encouraged to enhance Tourism sector.

4. It is important to provide political, economic and legal support to study the issues and problems in the way of tourism development programmers.

5. Government should take some steps towards developing Public and Private partnership in tourism sector.

6. Regional co-operation should be taken into account as one of the most important channels for attracting more tourist.

7. Infrastructural facilities, such as information Kiosks, and reservation counters for rail, air and road transport need to be made available. Also at most of the tourist place clean and cheap hotels must be set up to cater to budget tourist.

8. New areas of tourism, which can provide better returns and societal developments, like adventure tourism, Eco-tourism, Medical tourism etc should be properly developed.

Table -1***Egypt: Tourism Receipts and Its Contribution to GDP at Factor Cost***

Years	Tourism Receipt (Million £E)	% age Change	Total Commodity Sector to GDP (%)	Total Productive Service Sectors to GDP (%)	Tourism, Hotel & Restaurants	Total Social Service Sectors to GDP (%)
1996	3646.3	44.89	49.49	32.38	1.80	18.13
1997	2940.5	-24.01	49.87	32.10	1.14	18.03
1998	3235.1	9.11	49.59	32.53	1.48	17.89
1999	4313.8	24.99	49.61	32.67	1.85	17.72
2000	4316.9	.07	48.2	33.47	1.72	18.33
2001	3422.8	-26.11	48.43	32.73	1.18	18.84
2002	3796.4	9.82	49.79	31.48	1.23	18.73
2003	4154.6	8.64	50.14	31.94	1.76	17.91
2004	4854.3	17.3	50.23	32.70	2.33	17.05

Source: Central Bank of Egypt.

Table - 2*Share of Egyptian Tourism in the World*

Year	World Tourist Arrivals (Millions)	Tourist Arrivals to Egypt (Millions)	Share of Egypt in World Tourism (%)
1995	550	3.54	0.64
1996	597	4.06	0.68
1997	618	3.40	0.53
1998	627	4.26	0.67
1999	652	5.31	0.81
2000	687	5.34	0.77
2001	684	4.34	0.62
2002	703	5.24	0.73
2003	694	6.04	0.85
2004	763	8.15	1.07
2005	808	8.62	1.07

Source: World Tourism Organization

Table – 3

Egypt: Tourist Arrivals and Receipts

Measures	2000	2001	2002	2003	% change 03/02
Tourist Arrivals (000's)	5347	4341	5239	5600	6.44%
Tourist Receipts (Millions)	4316.9	3422.8	3796.4	4.54.6	8.64%

Source: Central Bank of Egypt

Table – 4

Egypt: Number of Tourists and Nights by Region

Region	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total Number of Tourists (000's)	2832	3549	4067	3396	4266	5311	5347	4341	5239	5600
Europe	1200 (42.37)	1853 (52.21)	2168 (53.30)	1580 (46.52)	2262 (53.02)	3241 (61.02)	3501 (65.47)	2769 (63.78)	3469 (66.21)	3660 (65.35)
West Asia	1084 (38.27)	1054 (29.69)	1170 (28.76)	1247 (37.51)	1388 (32.53)	1303 (24.53)	1070 (31.79)	1025 (23.61)	1179 (22.50)	1339 (23.91)
Africa	145 (5.43)	117 (3.29)	121 (2.97)	119 (3.50)	150 (3.51)	148 (2.78)	145 (2.71)	144 (3.31)	168 (3.20)	162 (2.89)
North & Latin America	203 (7.16)	261 (7.35)	250 (6.14)	229 (6.47)	235 (5.50)	315 (5.93)	325 (6.07)	184 (4.23)	168 (3.20)	171 (3.05)
Asia & Pacific	195 (6.88)	263 (7.41)	282 (6.93)	192 (5.66)	200 (4.68)	301 (5.66)	304 (6.99)	217 (4.99)	253 (4.82)	261 (4.61)
Total Number of Tourist Nights (000's Nights)	17684	22796	25990	21462	25692	34045	32702	28542	33011	55394
Average period of Stay for year (one night)	6.2	6.4	6.3	6.3	6.8	7.1	7.2	7.0	6.8	8.7
Total Tourist Revenues (£E millions)	2298.9	2009.1	3646.3	2940.5	3235.2	4313.8	4316.9	3422.8	3796.4	4154.6

Figure in bracket shows percentage.

Source: Monthly Economic Digest – Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade.

Table – 5***Egypt: Employment According to Economic Sectors (000's)***

Sector	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Total Commodity Sector	7968.00	8171.00	8088.00	8385.00	8664.00	8949.00	9250.00	9202.00	9123.00	9316.00	9564.00
Commodity Sector % age of the G. Total	53.55	53.27	51.10	51.30	51.37	51.43	51.43	51.26	50.21	49.93	49.66
Total Productive Service Sector	2450.00	2553.00	2528.00	2622.00	2720.00	2822.00	2943.00	2929.00	2747.00	2979.00	3119.00
Productive Service Sector % age of the Grand Total	16.47	16.64	15.97	16.04	16.13	16.22	16.36	16.32	15.12	15.97	16.19
Tourism, Hotel & Restaurants	136.00	140.00	145.00	145.00	147.00	150.00	155.00	150.00	155.00	253.00	269.00
Tourism, Hotel & Restaurants % age of the Productive Service Sector	5.55	5.48	5.74	5.53	5.40	5.32	5.27	5.13	5.64	8.49	8.62
Tourism, Hotel & Restaurants Sector % age of the G. Total	0.91	0.91	0.92	0.89	0.87	0.86	0.86	0.84	0.85	1.36	1.40
Total Social Service Sector	4461.00	4616.00	5209.00	5337.00	5481.00	5629.00	5791.00	5819.00	6309.00	6364.00	6576.00
Social Service Sector % age of the Grand Total	29.98	30.09	32.92	32.65	32.50	32.35	32.20	32.42	34.72	34.11	34.14
Grand Total	14879.00	15340.00	15825.00	16344.00	16865.00	17400.00	17984.00	17450.00	18169.00	18659.00	19259.00

Source : Central Bank of Egypt., various issues.

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