

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53747

Date: 11-09-2025

Title: Impact of Urban Connectivity on Economic Growth: Quantitative Study

Recommendation:

Accept as it isYES.....

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality	✓			
Clarity		✓		
Significance	✓			

Reviewer Name: Dr Abdul Hameed Shah

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

The manuscript provides a **well-structured quantitative analysis** of how road and railway connectivity influences economic growth across 15 Indian states (2011–2019). The use of a **fixed-effects panel regression model** is appropriate and adds robustness. The paper is highly relevant to infrastructure policy and regional development debates. Below are **minor, primarily technical clarifications** that will further strengthen the paper.

Specific Comments (by line number)

Line(s)	Comment	Suggested Action
4–17	Abstract clearly states motivation and findings, but the sentence at lines 12–13 is slightly long.	Break into two sentences for readability and emphasize the key coefficient results.
8–9, 125–133	The description of the fixed-effects model is solid.	Briefly mention any tests for panel assumptions (e.g., Hausman test) or justify FE over random effects.
31–67	Introduction is thorough; consider merging some overlapping sentences about urbanization and infrastructure (lines 36–49) to improve flow.	Light editing for conciseness.
111–121	Methodology is clear.	Add data source years for GSDP (e.g., RBI Handbook edition) for precise replication.
126–133	Model equation is correct.	Include whether variables were log-transformed to address scale differences, or explain why not.

Line(s)	Comment	Suggested Action
148–150	ANOVA and regression outputs are well-presented.	Consider moving large numeric tables to an appendix and present key statistics in-text for readability.
152–159	Goodness-of-fit is excellent (Adj R ² =0.966).	Briefly discuss potential multicollinearity checks (e.g., VIF) to reassure readers of coefficient stability.
172–176	Interesting negative coefficients for Kerala and Manipur.	Provide a brief discussion of possible geographic or policy factors behind these negative effects.
180–193	Conclusion is strong and policy-relevant.	Consider adding 1–2 lines on limitations (e.g., potential omitted variables such as air transport or digital infrastructure).

Overall Evaluation

- **Strengths:**
 - Comprehensive dataset across major states and 9-year period.
 - Rigorous fixed-effects panel regression with clear reporting of coefficients and significance.
 - Policy implications are well articulated (lines 190–193).