

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-53831**

Date: 15-09-2025

Title: Impact of hard and soft infrastructure on economic growth of Tamil Nadu

Recommendation:

Accept as it is

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.P.Manochithra

Date: 15-09-2025

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

(To be published with the manuscript in the journal)

The reviewer is requested to provide a brief comment (3-4 lines) highlighting the significance, strengths, or key insights of the manuscript. This comment will be Displayed in the journal publication alongside with the reviewers name.

The manuscript provides a rigorous empirical analysis of the role of hard and soft infrastructure in driving the economic growth of Tamil Nadu. By employing regression analysis with carefully constructed indices, the study offers strong evidence of a positive and significant relationship between infrastructure development and state domestic product. The paper's strength lies in its balanced methodological approach and its policy relevance for sustaining regional economic growth.

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Detailed Reviewer's Report

Title of the Paper: Impact of Hard and Soft Infrastructure on Economic Growth of Tamil Nadu

1. Significance of the Study

The paper addresses an important and timely topic by examining the role of both hard and soft infrastructure in influencing the economic growth of Tamil Nadu. While most prior studies have focused on the national level, this paper makes a novel contribution by analyzing state-level data. The focus on Tamil Nadu is particularly relevant, given its rapid industrialization, strong social sector, and role as one of India's leading economies.

2. Strengths

- The paper clearly distinguishes between **hard infrastructure** (transport, power, ports, communication) and **soft infrastructure** (education, health, financial institutions), highlighting both short-term and long-term impacts.
- The methodology is rigorous, with the construction of infrastructure indices using normalization techniques, which enhances comparability across variables.
- Use of **secondary data from credible sources** (RBI, UDISE, AISHE, Ministry reports) makes the analysis reliable and transparent.
- Application of **regression analysis** provides statistical evidence for the positive relationship between infrastructure development and State Domestic Product (SDP).
- The study has **policy relevance**, suggesting that continued government spending on infrastructure can stimulate long-term economic growth.

3. Weaknesses / Areas for Improvement

- The study is based on only **10 years of data (2012–22)**, which limits the ability to fully capture long-run effects. Extending the dataset or including projections could strengthen the findings.
- Multicollinearity between hard and soft infrastructure is acknowledged but not deeply examined. A more advanced econometric approach (e.g., multiple regression, VAR models) could provide richer insights.
- The discussion of policy initiatives in Tamil Nadu (e.g., urban development, industrial corridors, education and health schemes) could be expanded to connect empirical results with real-world interventions.

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REVIEWER'S REPORT

- More **international comparisons** or references to state-level studies from other regions of India could enhance the literature review.

4. Structure and Clarity

- The manuscript is well-structured, with clear sections (Abstract, Introduction, Literature Review, Objectives, Methodology, Analysis, and Conclusion).
- Tables and indices are well-presented, supporting the analysis.
- Language is clear and academic, though minor grammatical refinements could improve readability.

5. Recommendation

Decision: Accept with Minor Revisions

This paper makes a valuable contribution to the literature on infrastructure and economic growth by providing state-level evidence from Tamil Nadu. With minor improvements—particularly expanding the policy discussion, addressing econometric limitations, and refining the language—the manuscript will be suitable for publication.