

## REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-55002**

**Title: Is the Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes Affected by a Diverging Local Engine? A Case Study of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna.**

### 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: Mr. VISHAL SHARMA**

### Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

The document 'Is the Implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes Affected by a Diverging Local Engine? A Case Study of the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna' is unique topic.

**Recommendation :** Accept as it is.

### *Detailed Reviewer's Report*

- 1. Originality** –The double engine concept, which holds that a common ruling party between the state and the center promotes economic growth through improved efficiency in the implementation of central policies, has received substantial media attention in India in recent years. This assertion has also been a major pledge in election campaigns. The assertion has been contested; some believe it to be logically sound, while others think it is oversimplified and fails to take into account the subtleties of local demands (Kumar, 2019; Leivon & Deb, 2022; Tewari, 2025).

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2. **Structure and Clarity** –The manuscript is generally well-structured with sections such as Introduction, Results, and Conclusion. However, transitions between sections can be improved, and paragraph alignment should be checked for consistency.
3. **Strengths**—There are several indications that the Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY) has improved performance on efficiency measures when the central and state governments are matching. First, there is a distinct difference between matching and non-matching regions in terms of PMJAY cards issued, with matched states outperforming the cohort. This demonstrates that states with the same ruling party have been more eager to provide cards and register members for the program. State-run health insurance programs would have likely been the main focus of states with non-matching ruling parties.
4. **Significance**—The public's access to government-sponsored benefits can be significantly enhanced by a shared administrative drive. The bottom-up strategy, in which the center develops policies with local resources and issues in mind rather than expecting state governments to preserve central hierarchies, is highlighted in literature on central-local relations. The institutional arrangements behind the distribution of healthcare funds require increased transparency. Instead of being swayed by politics, decision-making should become an impartial, data-driven process.