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## REVIEWER'S REPORT

**Manuscript No.: IJAR-55831**

**Title: ANALYSIS OF INDIA'S BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONSHIP WITH NETHERLANDS**

**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**

### *Detailed Reviewer's Report*

**Manuscript Title**

**Analysis of India's Bilateral Trade Relationship with the Netherlands**

**Nature of the Study**

Empirical study based on secondary data (Time-series analysis)

**Period of Study**

2005–2024

**Overall Evaluation**

The manuscript examines India's bilateral trade relationship with the Netherlands over a twenty-year period, focusing on export and import trends and estimating simple and compound annual growth rates. The topic is **timely, relevant, and policy-oriented**, especially in the context of India–EU trade relations and global supply-chain integration.

The study demonstrates **clarity in objectives, adequate data coverage, and logical presentation** of trade trends. However, the paper remains **largely descriptive**, with limited econometric depth and theoretical engagement. While suitable for **general international economics or trade journals**, the manuscript

**REVIEWER'S REPORT**

requires **moderate to major revisions** to meet the standards of high-quality indexed journals.

**Section-wise Review Comments****Introduction****Strengths**

- Clearly explains the importance of the Netherlands in India's European trade
- Effectively highlights Rotterdam's role as a gateway to EU markets
- Establishes relevance of the study

**Limitations**

- Lacks theoretical anchoring (e.g., trade theories, gravity model)
- Repetition of background information

**Suggestions**

- Briefly link the study to international trade theories
- Reduce descriptive repetition
- Clearly identify the **research gap**

**Objectives of the Study****Strengths**

- Objectives are clear and achievable
- Properly aligned with the study's scope

**Suggestions**

- Add one analytical objective, such as:
  - Examining trade balance dynamics
  - Assessing structural shifts in trade composition

**Methodology****Strengths**

- Clearly states use of secondary data
- Reliable international data sources used (UNCTAD, IMF, Trade Map)

**REVIEWER'S REPORT****Limitations**

- Methodology is **too basic**
- Growth rate formulas are not explicitly stated
- No justification for using only growth measures

**Suggestions**

- Present formulas for simple growth rate and CAGR
- Include at least one additional analytical tool (trend regression / index numbers)
- Clarify units of measurement consistently (million/billion USD)

**India's Exports to the Netherlands****Strengths**

- Detailed year-wise data presentation
- Clear identification of export composition
- Appropriate use of tables and figures

**Limitations**

- Heavy narration of numbers without interpretation
- Structural changes in exports are not analyzed

**Suggestions**

- Discuss reasons for sharp post-2021 export surge
- Link export growth with:
  - Energy markets
  - Re-routing of global trade
  - EU demand patterns

**India's Imports from the Netherlands****Strengths**

- Well-documented import trends
- Clear identification of technology-intensive imports
- Trade surplus aspect clearly highlighted

**Limitations**

**REVIEWER'S REPORT**

- Import trends not compared with exports analytically
- No discussion on dependency or strategic imports

**Suggestions**

- Compare import CAGR with export CAGR analytically
- Discuss implications of import structure for India's industrial policy

**Analysis of Growth Rates****Strengths**

- CAGR estimates provide long-term insight
- Findings are clearly stated

**Limitations**

- Growth results are not statistically validated
- No comparative benchmark with other EU partners

**Suggestions**

- Include comparative context (Germany / France / EU average)
- Interpret growth in policy and strategic terms

**Conclusion****Strengths**

- Summarizes the main findings effectively
- Clearly states the strategic importance of Netherlands

**Limitations**

- Lacks:
  - Policy implications
  - Trade strategy recommendations
  - Future research scope

**Suggestions**

- Add implications for:
  - Trade policymakers
  - Export promotion agencies

**REVIEWER'S REPORT**

- India-EU FTA negotiations
- Suggest future research using econometric models

**Language, Style, and Presentation**

- Language is **clear and readable**
- Minor grammatical and typographical errors observed
- Some numerical inconsistencies in units

**Recommendation**

- Professional proofreading advised
- Standardize monetary units throughout the paper

**References****Strengths**

- Relevant academic sources cited
- Inclusion of reputed journals and OECD reports

**Limitations**

- Limited number of references
- Recent post-2022 studies are minimal

**Suggestions**

- Expand literature review
- Include recent WTO / World Bank trade studies
- Ensure consistent citation formatting

**Ethical and Academic Integrity**

- No ethical issues detected
- Similarity risk is **low to moderate**
- Data sources are properly acknowledged

**Final Recommendation to the Editor****Decision**

 **Major Revision Required**

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## REVIEWER'S REPORT

### Justification

- The paper is data-rich and relevant
- However, it requires:
  - Stronger analytical depth
  - Theoretical linkage
  - Enhanced policy interpretation