

**Review Form 1.7**

Journal Name:	<b>South Asian Journal of Social Studies and Economics</b>
Manuscript Number:	<b>Ms_SAJ SSE_106597</b>
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>Costs and Benefits of Regional Connectivity: An Analysis from Bangladesh Perspective</b>
Type of the Article	<b>Original Research Article</b>

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**PART 1: Review Comments**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p><b>Compulsory</b> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Is the manuscript important for scientific community?</b> (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)</li> <li><b>Is the title of the article suitable?</b> (If not please suggest an alternative title)</li> <li><b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</b></li> <li><b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b></li> <li><b>Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</b></li> <li><b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</b></li> </ol> <p><b>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</b></p>	<p><b>General Comments</b></p> <p>From my point of view, it is a very interesting topic and simultaneously it seems that to the best of my knowledge is an important research aims to investigate the benefits and costs of regional connectivity from the perspective of Bangladesh using the analytical tools of benefit-cost analysis. The study is conducted based on forecasted secondary data from different related published sources. A qualitative survey tool is also used to assess the intended impact of regional connectivity on the economy of Bangladesh. The study shows that gains from regional connectivity are very much sensitive to the changes of the variables particularly, transshipment charge, volume of transshipment, and cost of building physical infrastructure. With modest values of the parameters, we find that connectivity generates a positive net present value. From the stakeholders' point, connectivity is beneficial, particularly; multilateral connectivity generates more net benefit than bilateral connectivity. Besides, the economic costs, the security concern can play a big effect on the social cost of such connectivity. The grave concern is aired on incurring a huge amount of project cost, if Bangladesh implements the project with a higher interest tide loan from India. Moreover, only the imposition of congestion fees, water pollution, and traffic fees derive the benefit from transit facilities. The paper consists of the sections: Introduction, Overview of regional connectivity, Literature Review, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusion.</p> <p><b>However, I find some recommendations:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The abstract must contains the main purpose of the paper, the research method used in the research and the main contributions.</li> <li>It would be very useful to add in the "Introduction" section the purpose, objectives and hypothesis of the research.</li> <li>The Literature Review section cannot be missing from the paper.</li> <li>I consider an econometric model, descriptive statistics with Standard deviation, Jarque Bera test, Kurtosis etc, VIF test, correlation matrix will increase the quality of the paper.</li> </ol> <p>We recommend the authors to number the paragraphs: 1. Introduction; 2.Literature review; 3. Methods and Results, Discussions and Conclusions. In conclusion, the article should be thoroughly rebuilt (changes in structure recommended above). It should also be enhanced with a review of the literature adequate to the subject and a broader interpretation and commentary of the research results.</p>	
<p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></li> </ol>	<p>Yes</p>	
<p><b>Optional/General</b> comments</p>	<p>The Manuscript needs careful English proofreading because there are some shortcomings. For instance, the article "the" is sometimes missing in front of nouns, the message in some paragraphs is not clear enough.</p>	

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**PART 2:**

	<b>Reviewer's comment</b>	<b>Author's comment</b> <i>(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b>	<i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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