

Review of: "Contribution of Indirect Taxes on Goods to Economic Growth of Pakistan (1972-2022)"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

1. The courts deal with legal aspects rather than economic ones. It seems quite out of context here to mention the Supreme Court of Pakistan.
2. The definitions of direct and indirect taxes need to be reworked. I would suggest readers refer to some standard literature in this regard.
3. The introduction needs a major revamp. It seems that the author is not technically sound enough to present a concise argument to make a solid base for the research problem at hand.
4. Are the authors sure that they are only including data on goods? I believe the converse. Governments usually collect data for both goods and services. However, if this study is based on goods only, the authors are supposed to provide a source or explicitly mention the same.
5. The authors are suggested to incorporate more studies, and the style of the literature survey needs modification.
6. This model will suffer from specification bias. GDP can be a function of indirect taxes, but to what extent it is advised not to include variables like consumption and investment. The parameters of such models are usually inconsistent.
7. The log transformation of a linear function need not be linear, necessarily.
8. The authors have considered one of the forms of unit root. I strongly feel that the authors should consider other specifications like without trend and without intercept.
9. What is the justification on the part of the authors not to include other specifications? Why not consider other tests like the PP test?
10. The cointegration results, it seems, are missing. It would be good to see those results sketched out in the text.
11. I am highly apprehensive about the fact that we can read anything significant from the results given above. Almost all of these parameters are insignificant using the 2t rule. These results seem to suffer along multiple dimensions. I strongly suggest the authors rework the data and methodology.
12. Authors are advised to refer to the paper, *'Budget Consolidation and Social Sector Spending: Does Fiscal Contraction Endanger the Growth of Human Capital in India?'*. They may have a better idea about the Cointegration technique.
13. The authors are advised to add one more section highlighting explicitly the limitations and shortcomings of the study.