MSQ07

TRADE OPENNESS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH: ASSESSING THE IMPACT ON BANGLADESH'S READYMADE GARMENT SECTOR

Subhadip Ghosh[1], Shahidul Islam[1], Mohua Podder[2]

[1]MacEwan University, Edmonton, AB, Canada. [2]University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Canada

Abstract

Over the past five decades, Bangladesh has transitioned from one of the world's poorest nations to a lower-middle-income country, with the readymade garment (RMG) sector as a key driver. The RMG sector accounts for over 80% of the country's foreign exchange earnings, employs around four million workers, predominantly women, and has contributed to gender empowerment and economic growth. This paper uses time-series data to examine the causal relationship between trade openness, economic growth, and the RMG sector in Bangladesh. We explore short- and long-run causality through econometric models, offering new insights into the bi-directional relationships between RMG growth, GDP growth, and trade openness.

Conference Track

Management Science and Quantitative Methods