The Effects of Trade Deficit in Nepal’s Economy

Rean Badgami

College of Economics and Management, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Nanjing 210016, China

DOI: 10.29322/IJSRP.10.09.2020.p105104
http://dx.doi.org/10.29322/IJSRP.10.09.2020.p105104

Abstract- Nepal is encountering a consistent trade deficit throughout the decades. For certain economist, trade deficit, alone isn't an issue. They contend that if an economy makes a major venture or when individuals devour more than they broadly produce, a trade deficit happens. In any case, long term trade deficit in any economy can't be seen as a positive sign. An economy can scarcely sustain a continuous trade deficit that has been seen in Nepal. This paper has mentioned and explored the reasons and causes of Nepal trade deficit which can also be seen in many other countries. To get the result in the paper we have used Regression method in order to analyze the effects of trade deficit in Nepal’s economy. Time series data from 2000/01 to 2017/18 are used in the paper following regression method utilized to clarify the effect of trade deficit. The fundamental driver of trade deficit are government issues and discord, budget unavailability, geological arrangement. The result shows a noteworthy negative effect of the trade deficit on the economy of Nepal.

Index Terms- Human Development Index, Trade Deficit, Gross Domestic Product, Gross fixed Capital Formation.

I. INTRODUCTION

Nepal's trade balance in context of goods and services have been in shortfall for a long period of time. The huge deficiency has not brought about any significant assortment of average foreign liabilities, where the economy to a great extent is financed with remittances from overseas. Actually, a huge part of the expansion in the trade deficit is clarified by the remittances. Trade deficit in Nepal is reasonably sturdy and complex to strategy malleable factors, for example, government consumptions or credit. Government consumption had a huge responsibility on the trade deficit, however at lesser portion. Trade whether it is domestic or global can be is deliberated as one of the critical significant variables to sustainable development, employment advancement and benefits of the individuals. International trade grows significant at a point where the nation is not independent in fundamentals productions also at expenditures and capital goods. There are many challenges that Nepal faces in context of foreign trade. Its major feature is that it is a land-locked country located between two large and powerful countries: India and China.

The trade with India is growing even for basic consumptions in a huge amount whereas exports are very low comparatively. The labors here are costly that produce low quality products and majorly the government is instable and the policy is discrete. It is clear that the balance of trade is negative as the imports are higher than the exports in almost every perspective.

Nepal fundamentally involves in agriculture exporting agricultural goods, handcraft goods, crude material which does not meet international standards and convey insignificant foreign exchange to its capital. The slow development in export contrasted with the vigorous development in import stays a significant distress for Nepal to gain profit in terms of trading. The overall development in export was 4.2% in the most recent decade Though development in import during a similar period was 18.2 percent. Nepal’s trade deficit in context of goods and services have been in shortfall for a long period of time. The huge deficiency has not brought about any significant assortment of average foreign liabilities, where the economy to a great extent is financed with remittances from overseas. Actually, a huge part of the expansion in the trade deficit is clarified by the remittances. Trade deficit in Nepal is reasonably sturdy and complex to strategy malleable factors, for example, government consumptions or credit. Government consumption had a huge responsibility on the trade deficit, however at lesser portion. Trade whether it is domestic or global can be is deliberated as one of the critical significant variables to sustainable development, employment advancement and benefits of the individuals. International trade grows significant at a point where the nation is not independent in fundamentals productions also at expenditures and capital goods. There are many challenges that Nepal faces in context of foreign trade. Its major feature is that it is a land-locked country located between two large and powerful countries: India and China.

The trade with India is growing even for basic consumptions in a huge amount whereas exports are very low comparatively. The labors here are costly that produce low quality products and majorly the government is instable and the policy is discrete. It is clear that the balance of trade is negative as the imports are higher than the exports in almost every perspective.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A study have utilized board data examination to assess the impact of trade liberalization over export execution, import execution, the equalization of trade and the balance of payment for an example; taking illustration of 22 developing nations that have received trade liberalization approaches since the mid-1970s. They found that advancement invigorated export execution yet raised import execution by more, prompting an intensifying of the balance of trade. A study have utilized board data examination to assess the impact of trade liberalization over export execution, import execution, the equalization of trade and the balance of payment for an example; taking illustration of 22 developing nations that have received trade liberalization approaches since the mid-1970s. They found that advancement invigorated export execution yet raised import execution by more, prompting an intensifying of the balance of trade. (Santos-Paulino & Thirlwall, A. P. , 2004)

External sector of Nepal is accurately incapable with constantly expanding trade deficit. Export engaged on flooding in the ongoing years and imports stayed unstable. In spite of the fact that the development pace of exports out-placed that of imports,
Pakistan is confronting a trade deficit during a decades ago because of quick development of imports when contrasted with unobtrusive exports. Solid financial development causes rising domestic interest that expanded investment level that prompts increment the country's imports necessities. Basic change in Pakistan's money associated agenda offer growth to extensive increment in imported capital supplies and mechanical fragmented assets at the expense of imported consumer items. However, effectiveness of any country's worldwide trade policy much of the time depends upon the degree of income and cost flexibility of its imports and exports just as it relies upon exchange rate and precariousness of it which manages trade openness, deduction of limitations, and approval of tariff plan and protectionist policies regarding trade. As the regular import demand speculation has a microeconomic premise, it is underlying on the consumer hypothesis of demand, and this hypothesis expresses that the point of the consumer is to augment fulfillment. Degree of individual interest for imports sets up the all-out imports demand for the country’s economy. (Hassan, Wajid, A, & Kalim, R., 2017)

### III. DATA AND METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Data Source

Trade deficit in Nepal is a major concern as it is leading to declining occupations, discouraging wages, having low competitive advantage over global products and adding to the monotonous living standards that has been leading to tormented economy. Numerous endeavors have been concocted to make monetary reasons for the trade deficit. It is said that trade deficit is not a big deal whereas few states that trade balance leads in determining of factors related to macroeconomic. Either perspectives propose that trade deficit will be generally lethargic to trade strategies, and might be securely disregarded, as long as the country is succeeding strong macroeconomic arrangements. Continuous trade deficit in context of Nepal have let down the country's economy. Nepal is importing more products from other countries like India and China majorly, and the local products are not being able to compete over these foreign products. As we see the overall trend, we get the idea that the manufacturing sectors are more affected because of the reason that the import is exceeding whereas the export is continuing in a very slow pace. than that of export. Now this resulting in lack of employment, jobbs with less income, cause of the competition. Less the employment less the economic growth, leading to more import and more trade deficit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>GDP (Current Price)</th>
<th>Trade Balance</th>
<th>HDI</th>
<th>GFCF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000/01</td>
<td>44151.9</td>
<td>-6003.31</td>
<td>0.446</td>
<td>8475.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001/02</td>
<td>45944.3</td>
<td>-6044.42</td>
<td>0.447</td>
<td>8988.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002/03</td>
<td>49223.1</td>
<td>-7442.15</td>
<td>0.457</td>
<td>9807.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003/04</td>
<td>53674.9</td>
<td>-8236.64</td>
<td>0.462</td>
<td>10918.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/05</td>
<td>58941.2</td>
<td>-9076.79</td>
<td>0.469</td>
<td>11753.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/06</td>
<td>65408.4</td>
<td>-11354.6</td>
<td>0.475</td>
<td>13553.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/07</td>
<td>72782.7</td>
<td>-13531.2</td>
<td>0.486</td>
<td>15333.69</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Magee S.P was the first to see that the U.S. trade balance disintegrated regardless of depreciation of the dollar in 1971. He at that point hypothetically contended that it is workable for the trade balance to disintegrate resulting to cash deterioration, for the most part because of slacks in the reaction of trade flow to a change in exchange rate yet once the slacks are acknowledged at that point inevitably the trade balance improves. (Magee, 1973)

The study was examined to show the real exchange rate and trade balance correlation in Malaysia for a period 1955 to 2006, their empirical examination demonstrated that there is a presence of long-term connection between trade balance and exchange rate, significant factors that were critical incorporates the internal as well as foreign income. Their outcomes moreover shown the no J-curve impact in Malaysia. (wai-mum, Ng yuen-ling, & Tan Geoi-Mei, 2008)
At last, trade deficit have excluded of high-wage manufacturing employments. They have additionally squeezed the wages of laborers, by taking out steady employments as well as by lowering down the costs of local items and by diminishing work's bargaining power with worldwide firms. At last, trade deficit have diminished interest in innovative work, consequently subverting productivity development and adding to the stagnation of salaries that has tormented our economy. regression model is used. The accompanying condition that is mentioned below is applied to measure model

\[ GDP_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1TD_{it} + \beta_2HDI_{it} + \beta_3GFCF_{it} \]

Where, GDP = Gross Domestic Product, TD= Trade Deficit, HDI= Human Development Index and GFCF= Gross Fixed Capital Formation.

As we discussed above, we are well aware that a trade deficit can effect negatively as well as positively depending on Gross domestic product of different countries. A country that has trade deficit applies more cost for imports and the focus on export is eliminated and in short term period, a detrimental balance of trade results in inflation. Be that as it may, after some time, a generous trade balance debilitates local businesses then diminishes opportunities for employment. An immense dependence on imports likewise makes a nation powerless against financial aspects. Cash degradations, for instance, turns imports pricier which eventually results in inflation.

The Human Development Index was acquainted as a path that measure this methodology. HDI can possibly give a basic impression of improvement that can be unloaded to show advancement as for the Sustainable Development Goals. It tends to be utilized to supplement marginal shares of growth. Capital formation likewise impacts the financial government assistance of a nation. It supports in organizing the prerequisites of an expanding populace in a developing country. At the point when capital formation prompts the accurate neglect of natural assets and the foundation of various sorts of enterprises, stages of salary increment and the differed needs of the individuals are fulfilled.

They devour a variety of merchandises, their way of life grows and their monetary government assistance increments. An expansion in financial government welfare ceteris paribus means that the economy is doing well. It is, in any case, a consistent ascent in the pace of capital formation over the extended period of time that increases the flexibly of products, manage inflation also gets dependability within the economy.

### 3.3 Empirical Results and Analysis

In below mentioned study, the use of regression analysis is performed in order to analyze the impact of trade deficit in terms of Nepal’s overall economy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Coefficient</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
<th>t-value</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intercept</td>
<td>-233155</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>-8.40596</td>
<td>0.000**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TD</td>
<td>-1.43579</td>
<td>0.32366</td>
<td>-4.3608</td>
<td>0.001**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDI</td>
<td>588546.4</td>
<td>58690.2</td>
<td>10.0280</td>
<td>0.000**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GFCF</td>
<td>0.318324</td>
<td>0.32002</td>
<td>0.99467</td>
<td>0.337</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                      | R square = 0.99 | Significance F = 0.000 |

Here, “***” denotes significant at the 1% statistical level.

From above analysis, the consequence of regression determines a huge negative effect of the trade deficit on the Nepal’s financial and economic development. Trade deficit is shattering jobs careers, demoralizing incomes, low competitive advantage over foreign products. The trade deficit has affected badly on the domestic division of economy. The country is getting more product from foreign countries where they import in low price and comparatively the local products are not being able to convey the demand of people in the price that foreign products are giving. The manufacturing and industrial sectors of Nepal are the most affected due to the reason where import is higher than that of exports. This impact had achieved less job careers or lesser benefit for workers, as a result of the test from imports leading to growing trade deficit. Less occupations mean less things are conveyed in the economy, which, accordingly, encourages considerably more imports and never ending trade deficit.

However, the byproduct of regression additionally determines that Human development performs critical favorable outcome on the economic development. On the off chance that a crucial component of economic development is permitting specialists to find and build up their competition, an expansion in the capacities and working's accessible to people ought to permit a greater amount of job benefits where they are generally beneficial. At the point when a nation has a high HDI, it basically
implies that the life expectancy is growing, the educational sectors are productive also the incomes are advanced. It shows that the nation is developed, so the trade can advance human development and assist nations with accomplishing the long term missions and goals by making changes in income and job benefits, especially for fragile systems.

Simultaneously, Gross Fixed Capital Formation (GCFC) also has a critical progressive effect on economical factors of Nepal. The connection among capital formation and economy improvement can turn out to be stimulating as far as the significance of growth within capital formation. It can be commonly approved, the primary motivation behind monetary and economic advancement is to fabricate capital gear on an adequate scale inorder to expand efficiency in many fields related to Nepal economy which includes agriculture sector, farming, industrial sector, building of educational institutions, hospitals and clinics, roads and so on.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

4.1 Conclusion

Hence, to sum up we state that there is a negative impact on Gross Domestic products in Nepal due to the trade deficit. A shortage in a nation prompts lower total interest leading to slower development. Over the long haul, resolute trade deficit disrupts the way of life. It can prompt unemployment in locally situated businesses. Correspondingly, the nation running deficiency must import monetary money to accomplish stability. It can additionally prompt money shortcoming and create complex import inflation. A nation can confront the setback of foreign money hold. Trade deficit is an impression of absence of cost/non-value intensity. Human development is basic for financial development as individuals are significant assets and they assume an indispensable function in monetary development of a country. Rise in GDP development rates, while dispersed similarly over a populace will prompt value. Be that as it may, on the other hand, human development as better nourishment and training are pre requirements for advancement. Therefore, we came up to a conclusion that financial development and human development are interrelated to each other. There is no uncertainty that gross fixed capital arrangement is also plays a vital role in the financial development and advancement of a country. So as to implement monetary movement the general public wishes infrastructures, technologies, gadgets, road and rail network, transportations, air terminals, phones, water framework, internet and different types of resources. Consequently, it appears glaringly evident that monetary development and advancement are unequivocally reliant on noticeable fixed capital.

4.2 Recommendations

The trade deficit can be balance out by two methodologies that we are going to mention below. The authorities and legislature have power to recover one’s countries balance of trade. The first is the consumption exchanging approach. The legislature for this situation will attempt to convince foreign as well as domestic purchasers to expend a greater amount of domestic merchandise and less of products created externally in the economy. These strategies are not intended to decrease expenditure on products however to change the example of spending from foreign merchandise to locally delivered products. If this tend to be fruitful, it is probably going to prompt a drop in import use and a climb in trade profit. The other methodology that administrations can take when managing trade deficit can be the consumption diminishing methodology. The administration utilizing this methodology attempts to dispose of some aspect of the total interest. This will have two chief impacts. Right off the bat, local people will purchase and expend less thus imports are probably going to drop. The second is that as makers discover wants of local people in local business debilitating they will attempt to breakdown to foreign business sectors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to appreciate and give my thanks to my supervisor Zha Donglan. You have supported and been very attentive to my works. Your recommendation and guidance have helped me better my work. I would also like to give my appreciation to my university for giving us this opportunity to grow in a nice and learning environment with such helpful faculty members. Also, my classmates have been very supportive and inspired me.

REFERENCES


AUTHORS

First Author – Rean Badgami, College of Economics and Management, Nanjing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics, Nanjing 210016, China
Email: rean.badgami@gmail.com