

MOHAMED ASIF M

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Academic Qualifications

MA General Economics, Madras School of Economics	2025
B.Sc. (Honors) in Economics, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics University	2023
12 th Grade, 12th Grade, SRV Boys Higher Secondary School	2017
10 th Grade, Champion Anglo Indian Higher Secondary School	2015

Work Experience / Internships

- **Research Intern** (May 2022 - Feb 2023)
 - Co-authored a research paper with Dr. Muhammed Rafi OPC, examining the relationship between exchange rate changes and trade balance at the **commodity level** between India and USA. I conducted an empirical analysis to test the J-curve hypothesis in India-US bilateral trade at a disaggregated, commodity-level using monthly data from April 2007 to December 2019. This study addressed two key limitations in existing literature—aggregation bias and the assumption of linearity—by employing both the ARDL and Non-linear ARDL (NARDL) models to capture symmetric and asymmetric responses of trade balance to real exchange rate changes. Data cleaning was done using Microsoft Excel, and econometric estimation was carried out using EViews.

Academic Achievements / Awards and Accomplishments

- Presented a paper titled **“On the empirical estimation of J-curve effect: Evidence of asymmetry from India-US commodity trade”** in **57th Annual Conference of the Indian Econometric Society (TIES)** held at University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. 2023
- Presented a paper titled **“On the empirical estimation of J-curve effect: Evidence of asymmetry from India-US commodity trade** and secured **Second Position in Research Kshetra: A Student Research Conference** organized by **The Hansraj Economics Society** in collaboration with Department of Economics, Hansraj College, University of Delhi, Delhi. 2023
- Secured **Second Place, The Pareto Summit ‘25 – G20 Committee Simulation (FMCBG Track)**, hosted by **Pareto, DoHSS, IIT Madras** in collaboration with the Student Legislative Council (SLC), IITM. Represented the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)**. Engaged in high-level economic policy simulations focused on SDR reserves, water governance, and global financial stability. Commended by **Dr. C. Rangarajan**, former RBI Governor and Chairman, MSE. 2025
- Secured **Second Best Paper Award**, **First Annual International Student Conference, Jindal School of Banking & Finance** in collaboration with **Middlesex University, Dubai** – April 2025. Presented an early version of MA dissertation titled: **"Analysing the Trade Patterns and Role of Vehicle Currency on India-Italy Trade: A Commodity-Level Study"**. Received appreciation from **Dr. C. Rangarajan**, Former RBI Governor, & Chairman, Madras School of Economics. 2025

Academic Projects

- **Open Market Operations of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI): A Study** 2021
 - As part of the Indian Financial System course at Bengaluru Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, I conducted a detailed literature review on the evolution and effectiveness of Open Market Operations (OMOs) by the RBI. The study explored how OMOs have been used to manage liquidity, influence short-term interest rates, and support monetary policy transmission—particularly during key periods like post-liberalization and the COVID-19 pandemic. The review also analyzed RBI's interaction with government securities markets and its impact on inflation and credit flow.
- **Why Do Nations Hold Gold Reserves?** 2022
 - As part of the Research Methodology course at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, I conducted an empirical study to explore the economic rationale behind central banks—particularly India's—holding large gold reserves. The project combined insights from existing literature with a regression-based analysis using OLS estimation, examining the relationship between gold reserves and economic growth. Data analysis was carried out using Python and MS Excel, and the findings highlighted gold's persistent role as a safe haven and a strategic asset, especially for emerging market central banks.
- **Colonialism and Currency: A Historical Analysis of India's Exchange Rate Management during 1920-1925** 2023
 - Explored how colonial rule influenced India's exchange rate management during 1920-1925 and its effects on monetary policy. Analyzed data from January 1920 to December 1925 using the Autoregressive Distributed Lag (ARDL) model. Investigated the relationship between Indian export and import prices with Rupee-sterling parity, providing insights into short and long-term dynamics.
- **A Critical Analysis of Union Budget 2023** 2023
 - As part of the Public Economics course, I conducted a critical evaluation of the Union Budget 2023–24, focusing on fiscal priorities, revenue-expenditure dynamics, and sectoral allocations. The analysis assessed the budget's alignment with macroeconomic objectives such as inclusive growth, capital formation, and fiscal consolidation. Special attention was given to tax policy, capital expenditure trends, and social sector spending, with comparisons to previous years' budgets and fiscal targets.
- **Micro econometric Analysis of Factory Data in Maharashtra: An Empirical Evaluation Using the Annual Survey of Industries (2013 14)** 2024
 - As part of the Applied Micro econometrics course, I conducted a detailed analysis of a dataset derived from the Annual Survey of Industries (2013-14) for factories in Maharashtra. The dataset, consisting of Blocks A, B, and H, was reshaped such that each factory was represented by a single row entry. Using Stata, I generated summary statistics to characterize the factory-level variables, such as production output, employment, and firm size. My findings both corroborated and challenged established economic models, contributing to a nuanced understanding of factory operations within the region.
- **Micro econometric Analysis of Employment and Household Data from IFPRI** 2024
 - As part of my Applied Micro econometrics coursework, I analyzed datasets from IFPRI, focusing on household, individual, and employment data. Using Stata, I cleaned and transformed the data, created new variables, and performed regressions to examine factors influencing employment status (casual labor, self-employed, salaried) at both national and state levels. The analysis included handling missing values, merging datasets, and providing summary statistics. The results were used to generate policy recommendations, and all work was documented in a do-file and log file for reproducibility.

- **Household Food Insecurity and Health of Gig Workers in Chennai and Trichy** 2024
 - This study measures food insecurity and health-related quality of life (HRQL) among gig economy workers in Chennai and Trichy, including those working with platforms like Swiggy, Zomato, and Uber. Primary data was collected using the Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS) 9-item questionnaire and the EuroQol EQ-5D-5L instrument. This research provides insights to policy discussions on by enhancing food security by advancing public health in India's gig economy.
- **Teaching at the Right Level** 2024
 - As part of my Micro econometrics' coursework, I conducted an analysis of the Read India Learning Camps program, based on the "Teaching at the Right Level" methodology, using data from four states. I utilized Stata to assess the program's success by evaluating learning progress in reading and math across different states. The analysis included identifying state-level recommendations, exploring cross-competency trends between language and math, and presenting additional insights for program decisions. I also integrated external data to enhance the analysis and provided actionable insights for stakeholders like content teams and program heads. The findings were presented through a series of slides, supported by key assumptions and evidence.
- **Guns, Gems, and Glory: How Conflict and Mineral Resources Shape Trade Patterns** 2025
 - As part of my International Trade coursework, I conducted an empirical analysis using a *panel dataset of 116 countries* from 2006–2014, built from three different sources and analyzed in Stata. Applying a structural gravity model, I examined how conflict and mineral wealth affect trade, finding that while conflict reduces overall trade—especially in mineral-rich countries—it simultaneously increases arms imports in those same contexts. These results highlight how mineral resources can fund militarization during conflict, worsening economic vulnerability and distorting trade priorities.
- **Analyzing the Trade Patterns and Role of Vehicle Currency on India-Italy Trade: A Commodity-Level Study** 2025
 - For my master's thesis, I explored how the use of the US dollar as a vehicle currency influences India's trade balance with Italy. Using monthly data from 2009 to 2024 across 30 commodities at the HS4 level, I applied both ARDL and NARDL models in Stata to study the impact of exchange rate movements. The results show that while some support for the J-curve hypothesis exists with the euro, depreciation of the rupee against the US dollar often worsens the trade balance, highlighting how invoicing currency can significantly shape bilateral trade outcomes.

Skills/Certifications

- Microsoft Office Suite: Word, Excel, Power Point.
- Statistical Softwares: STATA and EViews.
- Programming Languages: Python, R and SQL.
- **Certifications:**
 - **UGC NET December 2024:** Scored a **92.739** percentile and qualified for admission to PhD programs in Economics.
 - **TNSET 2024:** Appeared for the Tamil Nadu State Eligibility Test (TNSET) 2024, *awaiting results*.
 - Fundamentals of Economics - (POLIMI OPEN KNOWLEDGE) from Politecnico di Milano, Italy.
 - Foundations: Data, Data, everywhere – Google.

Curriculum vitae of Mohamed Asif

Area of Interest

- International Trade and Finance
- Macroeconomics
- Applied Econometrics
- Monetary and Fiscal Policy

Language Skills

- English: Fluent
- Tamil: Mother tongue

Soft Skills: •Communication. •Leadership. •Team working. •Time management.
 •Adaptability. •Stress management. •Continuous learning. •Problem solving.

References:

- Dr. N.R. Bhanumurthy,
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- Dr. Muhammed Rafi OPC,
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