

The Impact of Imported Capital Goods on the Quality of Iranian Goods in the Supply Chain with Emphasis on Resistance Economy (Case Study: Textile Industry)

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Abstract

Supply chain management (SCM) is the active management of supply chain activities to maximize customer value and achieve sustainable competitive advantage. Now that sanctions have been imposed on Iranian society, quality Iranian production based on the principles of resistance economics can be considered as a cure for improving the economic situation and increasing national production. In this regard, special attention should be paid to the textile industry as the second basic human need after food. In the present study, 16 practical questions in 3 levels of capital goods, quality of Iranian goods, and resistance economy from 109 manufacturers, importers, and distributors of the textile market were evaluated and its reliability was measured by Cronbach's α method. Its validity was determined through a survey of experts and critics of the textile industry. The results of data analysis showed that the import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of resistance economy. Therefore, this study indicates that more attention should be paid to the social welfare of employees as the driving force of the textile industry. Furthermore, the government, as the custodian of imports and exports, should consider facilities for the import of capital goods into the country.

Keywords -Resistance Economy, Textile Industry, Quality, Iranian Goods, Capital Goods, Supply chain management

INTRODUCTION

Creating and maximizing customer value and gaining a sustainable competitive advantage are among the goals and results of Supply Chain Management (SCM). It represents a conscious effort by the supply chain firms to develop and run supply chains in the most effective & efficient ways possible. Supply chain activities cover everything from product development, sourcing, production, and logistics, as well as the information systems needed to coordinate these activities. The concept of Supply Chain Management (SCM) is based on two core ideas: The first is that practically every product that reaches an end user represents the cumulative effort of multiple organizations. These organizations are referred to collectively as the supply chain. The second idea is that while supply chains have existed for a long time, most

organizations have only paid attention to what was happening within their “four walls.” Few businesses understood, much less managed, the entire chain of activities that ultimately delivered products to the final customer. The result was disjointed and often ineffective supply chains. The organizations that make up the supply chain are “linked” together through physical flows and information flows. Physical Flows: Physical flows involve the transformation, movement, and storage of goods and materials. They are the most visible piece of the supply chain. But just as important are information flows. Information Flows: Information flows allow the various supply chain partners to coordinate their long-term plans, and to control the day-to-day flow of goods and materials up and down the supply chain. (Handfield, 2020)

Unfortunately, in recent years, according to statistics provided by the Ministry of Industry, Mines and Trade, the

import of consumer goods has increased significantly. For example, in the consumer goods sector, the dominance of consumerist culture, the tendency to prefer the consumption of foreign goods over domestically produced goods is an evidence for this claim, and it is important to provide appropriate solutions to replace the import of foreign consumer goods with Iranian quality goods.

Many researchers' study shows that the reduction of imports of consumer goods, in addition to indirectly reducing the outflow of some of the currencies of countries such as Iran, also directly expands export development by increasing the quality of manufactured goods and to help improve the foreign exchange earnings of countries for to trade growth, and productive and sustainable employment (Shabani et al., 2016).

According to empirical observations, foreign trade has increased through the import of capital and intermediate goods in developing countries. Due to the low relative prices of capital goods in developed countries compared to developing countries, it is possible for developing countries to import these goods, benefit from the technology transfer of their trading partner countries, and provide more economic growth. In this regard, the adoption of economic and trade policies has led to an increase in the quality of domestic goods and services and adaptation to global quality, which will have a significant impact on reducing the import of consumer goods (Taghavi et al., 2013).

In this regard, to promote the growth of the quality of Iranian goods, recognizing emotional factors is important including: normative and moral opposition to the purchase of foreign products due to a sense of interest and loyalty to the homeland that may make domestic products preferred to foreign, along with other factors such as imports of capital goods which can strengthen the quality of goods and cause economic growth of the country.

One of the most important effects of imposing unilateral sanctions on the Islamic Republic of Iran is the prevention of oil exports and, consequently, the decline in oil revenues. Declining oil revenues have led to a net decline in exports, resulting in a widening balance of payments deficit. With the increase of the balance of payments deficit, the supply of foreign currency in the country decreases and consequently leads to the devaluation of the national currency against the foreign currency. On the supply side, it can be argued that the devaluation of the national currency increases the cost of imports of intermediate and capital goods, and as a result, imports of these goods become more expensive, and therefore, increases production costs, which leads to an increase in domestic prices and intensifies the inflationary effect of the devaluation of the national currency and is

called import inflation. On the other hand, the increase in production costs causes a recession in industry and a decrease in the quality of domestic goods and consequently an increase in imported goods, which will result in more contraction in the real sector of the economy and production (Shabani et al., 2016).

In such a situation, it can be argued that by reducing the national currency, the import of consumer goods is not cost-effective due to high prices and the currency resulting from the reduction of imports of consumer goods can be allocated to the import of capital goods. By increasing the probable production resulting from the modernization of the production fleet by capital goods, the decrease in the import of consumer goods can be compensated (Shabani et al., 2017).

To understand the concept of resistance economics, we must first gain a proper understanding of the national economy as well as the global economic atmosphere, followed by the intensity of pressure that the arrogant and western domination system has brought to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Resistance economics means identifying areas of pressure or sanctions in the current context and subsequently trying to control and neutralize them and ideally turning such pressures into opportunities. Certainly, public belief and participation and the application of rational and prudent management are preconditions and requirements for such an issue. Resistance economics is about reducing dependencies and emphasizing the benefits of domestic production and striving for self-reliance. A real resistance economy means an active and dynamic resistance economy, not a passive and closed economy; As resistance is defined to remove obstacles to progress and effort in the path of movement and progress. In fact, the goal in a resistance economy is to overcome the economic pressures and blows from the hostile forces that are an obstacle to the progress of society (Kalaei, 2016).

The textile industry, as a parent and applied industry, has faced more ups and downs than any other industry. One of the reasons is the lack of attention to investment in industry and its modernization. The foundation of industry growth and development requires capital goods, and this is related to the quality of Iranian manufactured goods. In other words, in order to reach better solutions and provide appropriate policies to strengthen the country's economy in the face of sanctions, we first need to examine the extent and vulnerability of the country's economy in various sectors, especially in the import of capital goods. Therefore, in the current situation, it is very important to study "whether the modernization of the textile industry through the import of capital goods, taking into account the issues of resistance economics, has an impact on quality" (Shabani et al., 2017).

RESISTANCE ECONOMICS IN ECONOMIC LITERATURE: ECONOMIC SPRINGINESS

Briguglio (2006) used a term called (economic springiness) to construct an economy to improve (or adapt to) the effects of external shocks against the economy. This term, by its definition, is the closest concept to the popular resistance literature in our country. Briguglio states that the term economic springiness is used in two senses: first, the ability of the economy to recover quickly from destructive external economic shocks; Second, the ability of economics to withstand the effects of these shocks (Briguglio L & et al. 2011).

The economy's ability to recover from the effects of adverse shocks will be severely limited. If, for example, there are chronic financial deficits, on the other hand, this power will be enhanced if policy tools can be used to offset the negative effects of shocks; like a situation where the country has a strong financial situation and can use precautionary measures or tax breaks to deal with the negative effects of shocks (shock response). This type of economic springiness is a kind of ability to withstand shocks when the shocks are neutral or insignificant. This type of spring is also possible when the economy has mechanisms called shock absorption that reduce the effects of the shocks. For example, having a flexible market can serve as a tool to absorb shocks (Briguglio L & et al. 2011).

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AUSTERITY ECONOMICS AND RESISTANCE ECONOMICS

Some people equate resistance economics with austerity economics or they think that austerity economics is one of the branches of resistance economics; while these two terms are completely different and have nothing to do with each other. To clarify the issue, we will explain the concept of economic austerity. Austerity is a plan by which governments reduce or eliminate the provision of certain services and public benefits (such as health care and social security, etc.) to reduce costs and eliminate the budget deficit.

This plan, which is carried out by some governments in order to deal with the budget deficit, sometimes leads to an increase in taxes, a reduction in wages, an increase in the receipt of loans and foreign financial aid (Yeylaghi Ashrafi, 2012). However, economic strategy in certain circumstances and in order to overcome the economic obstacles and challenges facing an economy that is a knowledge-based, medium-term, active strategy relies on the national strength of the members of a society in which all existing and even limited domestic facilities and capacities are used along with the technical knowledge of the world. With its help, not only can the threats of

international sanctions be turned into domestic opportunities, but also accelerate the process of development and progress in the economic and social dimensions of a country in a certain period of time, which is the concept of resistance economy (Qiyasi et al., 2012).

THE IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL PRODUCTION IN A RESISTANCE ECONOMY

By reviewing the general policies of the resistance economy, it is found that out of 24 policies, 18 are in the field of strengthening national production, and this indicates that the implementation of the resistance economy increases both production and economic security; ultimately, the realization of both issues will lead to macroeconomic growth. There are two basic elements in a resistance economy, one of which is to strengthen national production. Hence, national production is important and is emphasized in the field of resistance economics. To clarify the matter, it is necessary to examine the effects that lead to the strengthening of national production.

Six very important effects can be stated to strengthen the national production, and each of these six effects somehow neutralizes part of the economic plans of the enemies against the country.

- 1- Increasing in the inventory of goods in the economy
- 2- Reducing inflation (with the increase of goods and products in constant conditions, the price of goods decreases and as a result, inflation decreases.)
- 3- Reducing dependence on foreign goods (strengthening national production in a way that improves the quantity and quality of domestic goods will automatically reduce the desire of Iranian consumers to buy foreign goods, and this means reducing the dependence on foreign goods and currency).
- 4- Reducing the need for foreign currency
- 5- Increasing employment and income (increasing social welfare)
- 6- Increasing government revenues (reducing dependence on oil)

In general, a large number of sanctions that have been imposed have directly or indirectly sought to reduce national production and reduce Iran's domestic economic capacity in the manufacturing sector. For example, the technology embargo - in which technology and technical knowledge are not provided to Iran - will be the first and most important effect on the production sector (Salehi Rad, 2012).

In addition to reducing the country's vulnerability, this strategy is itself an attack on energy resources. At a time when the West's unilateral attacks and sanctions against our country are increasing, it is necessary to implement this issue within the framework of a resistance economy. In

other words, to move towards non-dependence on oil in the subject of resistance economy is a constructive roadmap (Peyghami, 2012).

SOCIAL WELFARE

Since the eighteenth century, when Jeremy Bentham and David Hume defined welfare as synonymous with utility or desirability as goodness and happiness, Pigou (Mutreja, 2018) considered it a quantitative category measurable with money and related to one's aspirations and Soler emphasized one's preferences and desires. John Rawls (Chen, 2012) also considers welfare as the fair distribution of resources. Fitzpatrick considers social well-being in a very broad sense and defines it as "happiness, meeting one's preferences and needs, liberation, and the relative comparisons that one has with others in terms of their well-being" (Fitzpatrick, 2004).

COMPETITIVENESS

Competitiveness is the ability of a country to achieve sustainable growth of sustainable GDP per capita of a set of institutions, policies and factors that determine the level of productivity of a country; and productivity determines the growth of its per capita income (WEF, 2010). The Development Management Foundation defines competitiveness as an area of the economy that analyzes the factors and policies that shape the ability of nations to create and maintain an environment that leads to greater value in the business environment and greater success for its people (IMD).

INCREASING THE LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT

Employment in the country will lead to public security, which can also solve cultural problems. Therefore, the creation of job opportunities by the government is considered essential. In the current situation, increasing job opportunities is one of the important requirements and actions of responsible officials in the government, because in order to achieve a resistance economy, we need more labor in the country. Among the necessary solutions to remove barriers to job creation are: changing the government's attitude towards the private sector, creating economic security, fighting corruption, controlling migration from rural to urban and from small towns to large cities, and controlling the underground economy.

CONCEPTUAL MODEL OF RESEARCH

Capital goods (independent variable) refers to goods that are used directly to produce goods or services. These goods are generally durable, increase the productivity of

other factors of production and create added value (Naimi et al., 2017).

Resistance economics (mediating variable): For the concept of resistance economics in the same short period of time, different definitions have been proposed, each of which has looked at this issue from different angles. In the meantime, a comprehensive and complete definition of the resistance economy has been provided by the wise leader of the revolution: the resistance economy means the economy that can determine the growth and prosperity of the country in conditions of pressure, sanctions, hostilities and intense hostilities (Hosseinzadeh Bahraini, 2013).

Quality of Iranian goods (dependent variable): Quality means compliance with specifications and requirements (Ozberg, 2014), so that the customer is excited and returns but the product does not return (Deming, 2008).

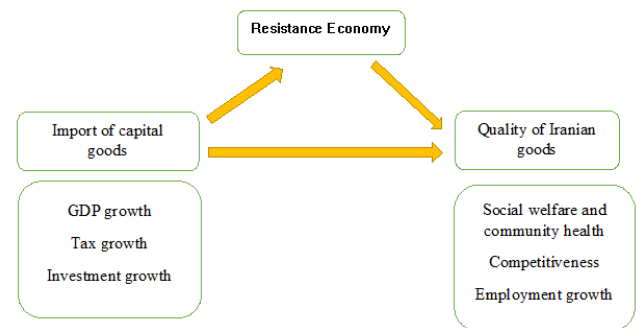


FIGURE 1: THE FINAL CONCEPTUAL MODEL (SEPANLOO HASHEM ET AL., 2010)

Capital goods (independent variable): refers to goods that are used directly to produce goods or services. These goods are generally durable, increase the productivity of other factors of production and create added value (Nemati Habib et al., 2017).

Resistance economics (mediating variable): For the concept of resistance economics in the same short period of time, different definitions have been proposed, each of which has looked at this issue from different angles. In the meantime, the comprehensive and complete definition of the resistance economy has been presented by the wise leader of the revolution: the resistance economy means the economy that can determine the growth and prosperity of the country in conditions of pressure, sanctions, hostilities and intense hostilities (Hosseinzadeh Bahraini Mohammad Hussein 1392).

Quality of Iranian goods (dependent variable): Quality means compliance with specifications and requirements (Crosby Philip B., 1979) so that the customer is excited and

returns but the product does not return (Dr. Deming W. Edwards, 2008).

RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

i. The Main Hypotheses

1. The import of capital goods has a positive effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of a resistance economy.

2. The import of capital goods affects the quality of Iranian goods.

ii. Sub-hypotheses

1- Growth of GDP has an effect on social welfare with the role of resistance economy.

2- Tax growth affects competitiveness with the role of resistance economy.

3- The growth of investment affects the growth of employment with the role of resistance economy.

RESEARCH METHOD

The present study is of applied type because the purpose of this research is to develop applied knowledge in a specific field in order to apply the findings to develop reliability. Moreover, in the field of data collection, the present study is a descriptive survey study. The statistical population of the present study includes activists in the textile industry such as Nikoo Tanpoosh. The statistical population of the textile industry was 500 people who have been in this field during 2017. However, due to lack of interest in completing the questionnaire or lack of providing company information, the statistical sample size was eventually reduced to 109 people. In this study, in order to analyze the data, two general statistical approaches of descriptive statistics and inferential statistics were used. In this study, descriptive statistics including mean and frequency were used to describe the data and structural inferences were used for inferential statistics using Smart PLS software.

TESTING RESEARCH HYPOTHESES

Path coefficients are in standard mode and their values vary between -1 to 1. The closer the value of the path coefficient is to one or negative one, the more effective that path is. The standard coefficients of the external models somehow indicate the validity of the structure. The path coefficients of external models vary between -1 and 1, and the highest value in this model belongs to the effect of resistance economy on product quality. The coefficient of determination for endogenous conceptual variables is calculated and shown inside the variable ellipse. It should

be noted that the value of the coefficient of determination is not calculated for exogenous variables. The following diagram shows the structural model of the research in a significant way based on t-statistics.

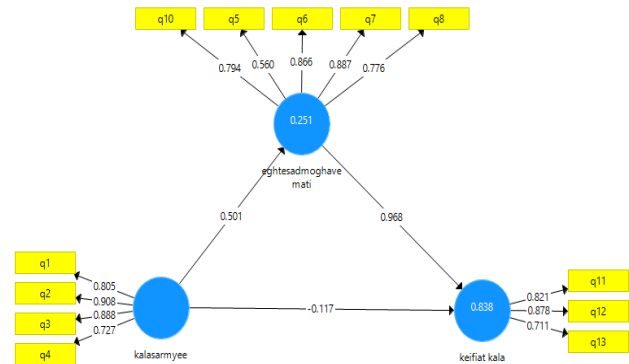


FIGURE 2: MODEL OUTPUT IN NORMAL MODE

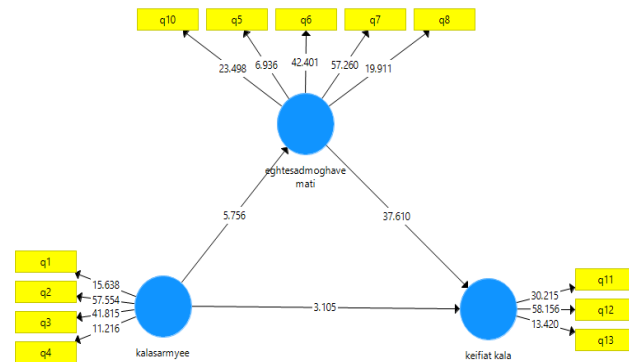


FIGURE 3: MODEL OUTPUT IN STANDARD MODE

Hypothesis 1: The import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of resistance economy.

Figures (2) and (3) show the fitted model in the form of standard coefficients and significance level. The coefficient of the path coefficient of capital goods on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of a resistance economy is equal to 0.485. The value of t-statistic is equal to 5.168 which is more than 1.96. Therefore, the above path coefficients are significant at the 95% confidence level. Therefore, it can be inferred that the import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of resistance economy. Therefore, the first hypothesis of the research is confirmed.

TABLE I
THE RESULT OF THE FIRST HYPOTHESIS

| Hypothesis | Path Coefficient | Statistics | Probability | Result |
|--|------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Import of capital goods has a significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of resistance economy | 0.485 | 0.168 | 0.0000 | Confirmed |

Hypothesis 2: Import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods.

Figures (2) and (3) show the fitted model in the status of standard coefficients and significance level. The path coefficient of capital goods on the quality of Iranian goods is equal to -0.117. The value of t-statistic is equal to 3.105, which is greater than 1.96. Therefore, the above path coefficients are significant at the 95% confidence level. Therefore, it can be inferred that the import of capital goods has a negative and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods. Therefore, the second hypothesis of the research is confirmed.

TABLE 2
THE RESULT OF THE SECOND HYPOTHESIS

| Hypothesis | Path Coefficient | Statistics | Probability | Result |
|--|------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Import of capital goods has a significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods | -0.711 | 3.105 | 0.002 | Confirmed |

Sub-hypotheses:

Sub-hypothesis 1: GDP growth has a significant effect on social welfare with the role of resistance economy.

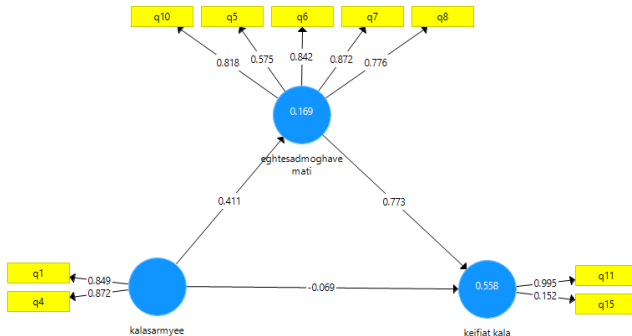


FIGURE 4: MODEL OUTPUT IN NORMAL MODE

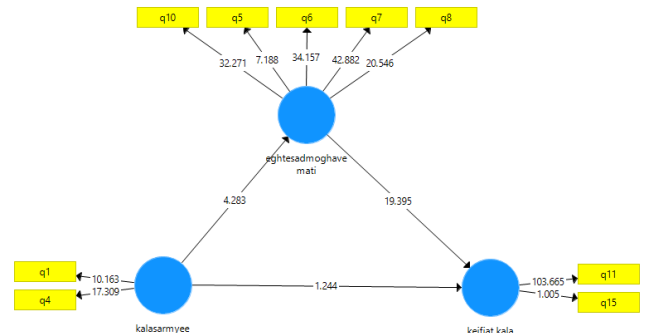


FIGURE 5: MODEL OUTPUT IN STANDARD MODE

Figures (4) and (5) show the fitted model in the status of standard coefficients and significance level. The growth rate coefficient of GDP on social welfare with the role of resistance economy is equal to 0.318. The value of t-statistic is equal to 3.856 which is more than 1.96. Therefore, the above path coefficients are significant at the 95% confidence level. Therefore, it can be inferred that the growth of GDP has a significant effect on social welfare with the role of resistance economy; finally, it can be inferred that the import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of resistance economy.

TABLE 3
THE RESULT OF THE FIRST SUB-HYPOTHESIS

| Hypothesis | Path Coefficient | Statistics | Probability | Result |
|---|------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| GDP growth has a significant effect on social welfare with the role of resistance economy | 0.318 | 3.856 | 0.0000 | Confirmed |

Sub-Hypothesis 2: Tax growth has a significant effect on competitiveness with the role of a resistance economy.

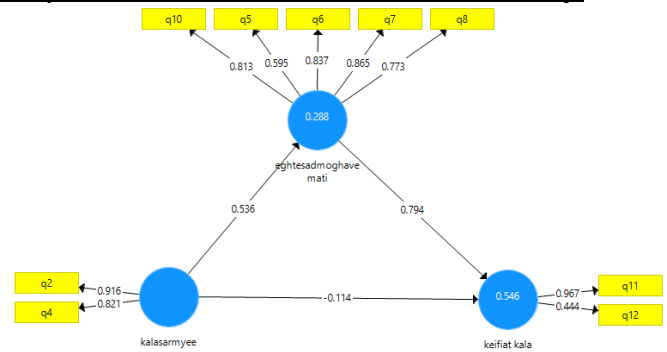


FIGURE 6: MODEL OUTPUT IN NORMAL MODE

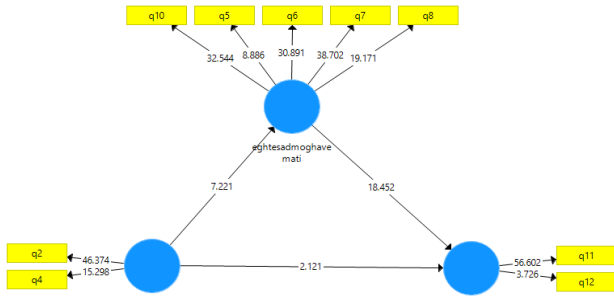


FIGURE 7: MODEL OUTPUT IN STANDARD MODE

Figures (6) and (7) show the fitted model in the status of standard coefficients and significance level. The growth rate of the tax on competitiveness with the role of a resistance economy is equal to 0.426. The value of t-statistic is equal to 3.855 which is more than 1.96. Therefore, the above path coefficients are significant at the 95% confidence level. Therefore, it can be inferred that tax growth has a significant effect on competitiveness with the role of a resistance economy; finally, it can be inferred that the import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of resistance economy.

TABLE 4 THE RESULT OF THE SECOND SUB-HYPOTHESIS

| Hypothesis | Path Coefficient | Statistics | Probability | Result |
|--|------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Tax growth has a significant effect on competitiveness with the role of a resistance economy | 0.426 | 3.855 | 0.0000 | Confirmed |

Sub-hypothesis 3: Investment growth has a significant effect on employment growth with the role of resistance economy.

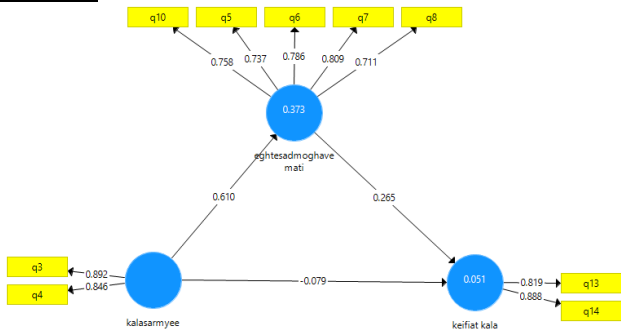


FIGURE 8: MODEL OUTPUT IN NORMAL MODE

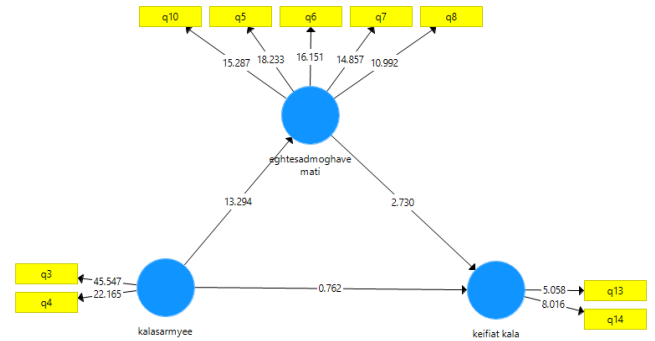


FIGURE 9: MODEL OUTPUT IN STANDARD MODE

Figures (8) and (9) show the fitted model in the status of standard coefficients and significance level. The coefficient of investment growth path on employment growth with the role of resistance economy is equal to 0.161. The value of t-statistic is equal to 2.714 which is more than 1.96. Therefore, the above path coefficient is significant at the 95% confidence level. Thus, it can be inferred that investment growth has a significant effect on employment growth with the role of resistance economy.

TABLE 5 THE RESULT OF THE THIRD SUB-HYPOTHESIS

| Hypothesis | Path Coefficient | Statistics | Probability | Result |
|--|------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| Investment growth has a significant effect on employment growth in a resilient economy | 0.161 | 2.714 | 0.007 | Confirmed |

CONCLUSION

Iran's economic atmosphere today is witnessing special and unique economic events, some of which have never occurred in the world. Hence, when the conditions are special, there is no pattern and the need for innovation and brainstorming by experts is needed to meet the economic challenges. At present, Iran's economy must follow the right principles in order to overcome illegal sanctions and turn the threat into an opportunity.

Focusing on domestic power and production and modernization of production tools and machines to increase the quality of domestic goods creates a desire in people to replace foreign consumption with domestic consumption, which ultimately leads to capturing the domestic market as the closest and the most accessible part of trade, which is itself a prelude to exports.

Encouraging consumers to buy domestically produced products is one of the policies of all governments to help increase production and create jobs and economic growth.

In Iran, the tendency of consumers to buy domestic products prevents the outflow of currency from the country, too, and with the growth of demand for these products, job opportunities will be created. The main names of the years assigned by Supreme Leader of the Revolution in recent years have been around the axis of the economy and especially the consumption of domestic products. Accordingly, 2016 was named by him as the year of resistance economy, action and practice, and 2018 was named as the year of protection of Iranian goods.

Foreign trade has increased the rate of economic growth in developing countries through the import of capital goods and intermediaries and due to the low relative prices of capital goods in developed countries compared to developing countries, it is possible for developing countries to import these goods, while benefiting from the technology transfer of its trading partners, it provided the ground for economic growth. In this regard, adopting appropriate economic, trade and cultural policies by increasing the quality of domestic goods and services and adapting to global quality and changing consumer habits will have a significant impact on reducing imports of consumer goods.

In other words, according to the above, it can be said that focusing on the textile and clothing industries due to having the necessary knowledge of domestic needs and cultural affinity in various fields is one of the closest goals to achieve the domestic market and save foreign exchange outflows. Textile factories can be achieved by importing capital goods and improving their quality. Upgrading textile factories is possible by importing capital goods and improving its quality.

Quality is one of the most important topics in the production process, and technology plays a major role in improving the quality and reducing the cost of products through the import of intermediate goods. Therefore, in recent decades, we have seen an increase in the share of exports (countries with technology) and imports of industrial and intermediate goods (developing countries), especially goods with new technologies, which plays a refining role in improving the technological capability of the country, increasing the quantity and quality of products, increasing the competitiveness of the country, reforming management and increasing exports (Ahmadvand et al., 2018). In 2017-2018, in terms of competitiveness risk, we have witnessed Iran being ranked 69th out of 137 countries in the world (Ghasemian, 2015). The presented materials show the role of import of capital goods in improving the quality of products and its high importance.

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

1) Based on the results of the first hypothesis (the import of capital goods has a positive and significant effect on the quality of Iranian goods with the role of the resistance economy.)

2) Based on the results of the first sub-hypothesis (import of capital goods has a negative effect on the quality of Iranian goods.) The research suggests that more attention be paid to investment growth in the textile industry to improve product quality and employment growth.

3) Based on the results of the first sub-hypothesis (import of capital goods has a negative effect on the quality of Iranian goods.) Come on.

4) Based on the results of the second sub-hypothesis (GDP growth has a positive and significant effect on social welfare with the role of resistance economy.) It is suggested that more attention be paid to social welfare of employees as gears of production and prosperity of textile industry.

5) Based on the results of the third sub-hypothesis (tax growth has a significant effect on competitiveness with the role of the resistance economy.) Purposeful planning to direct tax revenue to competitive industrial products and expand the competitive environment by monitoring the productive sectors of the trade market.

6) Based on the results of the fourth sub-hypothesis (investment growth has a positive and significant effect on employment growth with the role of resistance economy.) Necessary planning for the growth of domestic investment by increasing domestic production based on quality improvement in order to create employment using From internal capacities.

Suggestions for future research

Researchers are advised to:

1- This research should be done separately for other industries.

2- If you want to re-research, it is suggested to study the effect of service quality dimensions on the quality of Iranian goods.

3- If you want to re-research, it is suggested to study the effect of relationship structures (such as trust, commitment and loyalty) on the quality of Iranian goods.

4- If you want to re-research, it is suggested to study the effect of sustainable competitive strategies on the quality of Iranian goods.

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