

# ABSTRACT

## MODELING ECONOMIC DISRUPTIONS AND RESILIENCE STRATEGIES FOR PAKISTAN'S TRANSPORT SECTOR DURING POLITICAL PROTESTS

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Transportation is the key factor in any country's economy and plays a main role in implementing a successful and effective supply chain. It is a mode that helps with the movement of deliveries and products, to and from the origin point to the destination point well within the required time. Similarly, the transportation sector is not only beneficial on its own but also forms a backbone of other related supply chains as well such as Cold Supply Chains, Agribusinesses, and health supply chains to mention a few. The reputation of transportation is such that it is considered one of the three major components of supply chain management, i.e., purchasing, manufacturing, and transportation. Therefore, it can be concluded that for any economy and supply chain to work effectively and efficiently, the transport sector has to be fully functional and sustainable.

In South Asia, the majority of the countries face a bigger political dilemma regularly. It's usually supported by violence, countrywide protests, revenge politics, and even the resulting lockdowns that can succumb the entire country to its feet. It is often driven by the political parties themselves who initiate the entire process of taking the people from their homes and go on a long march towards the capital cities etc. It has happened on numerous occasions in the near past such as riots in the capitol by the Trump supporters, and the protests of the young students in Bangladesh and Sri Lanka that eventually toppled the governments. The current research intends to use a similar case study in the scenario of Pakistan where the protests led by one of the country's leading parties happen regularly, sometimes once or twice a month. It has significantly disrupted daily life, losses to the economy, closure of educational institutions, and even the disruption of transportation networks. The closures of the roads that connect major parts of the country have led to delays, increased logistical challenges, and costs. In short, the country faces broader social and economic concerns, and it needs immediate attention.

To do so, the research intends to implement the Inoperability Extended Multisectoral Model (IEMM) to fully assess the disruptions caused in the transportation sector of Pakistan due to these recent protests and also to evaluate its ripple effects in the interconnected sector of Pakistan's economy. For this purpose, the Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) for Pakistan will be utilized to assess the demand reduction inoperability effects along with the economic losses. Similarly, the research will also implement a Multi-Criteria Decision-Making technique i.e., the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) to evaluate and rank the resilience strategies to mitigate the impacts caused by the protests and enhance the sustainability and resilience during disruptions. The

research intends to help resolve the current crises by providing necessary solutions and recommendations to policymakers and lawmakers to ensure that the transport supply chain remains intact under the disruptions caused by such events.

**Keywords:** Transportation, Supply Chain, Pakistan, IEMM, AHP, Resilience

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