

CHAPTER : 5

DIRECTION OF BANGLADESH EXPORTS

5.1 INTRODUCTION

Like composition the direction of exports of a country is an indicator of export development. The direction of exports analyses the destination of export items, the number of countries they are entering, the position of geographic concentration etc.

The growth of exports of a country depends upon three major factors viz. (i) the scope to extend supply of export commodities in the economy, (ii) rate of expansion of demand in foreign markets and (iii) supply condition of export goods in competing countries.

The analysis of direction of exports helps to identify pattern of change in exports entering buyer countries over a period of time. So in the present chapter it is proposed to study the direction of Bangladesh exports and to pinpoint the changes that have taken place over a period of time from different angles.

5.2 CHANGING PATTERN OF BANGLADESH EXPORTS IN DIFFERENT REGIONS

Bangladesh exports enter different regions of the world. Changes in her exports in different regions will give a macro idea of changes over a period of time. To see these changes we have tried to find out changes in shares of her exports in

different regions, their trends over the period and growth of her exports receipts to different regions. To see yearwise change we have calculated annual share of different regions in her exports and to find out overall trend we have calculated the three-year moving average of share. With a view to see the growth pattern of her exports we have computed average annual growth of her exports entering different regions. We have used formula as before. Depending on the availability of data we have covered the period from 1977-78 to 1985-86 and handled the regions as classified by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

Table 5.1 and 5.2 present our results. The share of Asia region excluding Middle East in aggregate exports of Bangladesh increased from 19.62% in 1977-78 to 24.35% in 1985-86. Its share increased by 24.11% in 1985-86 over 1977-78. The average rate of increase of its share was 2.43% per annum. It could be observed from three-year moving average figures that its share had an increasing trend upto 1981-82 since 1977-78 and afterwards a decreasing trend. Bangladesh annual exports to this region increased by 18.09 percent per annum on average.

The share of EEC (European Economic Community) in aggregate exports of Bangladesh decreased slightly from 20.29% in 1977-78 to 20.26% in 1985-86. This was 0.15% decrease in 1985-86 over 1977-78. The average rate of decrease of its share was 0.02%. Its share had a decreasing trend during 1977-78 to 1980-81 and since then an increasing trend. Her exports to this region increased by 15.27% per annum on average.

The share of African regions in aggregate exports of Bangladesh decreased from 17.36% in 1977-78 to 13.25% in

1985-86. The average rate of decrease of its share was 2.97% per annum. Three-year moving average indicates that the share of this region had a declining trend.

The share of Middle East in aggregate exports of the country increased slightly from 9.76% in 1977-78 to 10.63% in 1985-86. The average rate of increase of its share was 0.95% per annum. Its share had an increasing trend upto 1983-84 and since then a declining trend. The annual rate of increase of her exports to this region was 16.38% on average. The share of American region increased from 16.21% in 1977-78 to 23.86% in 1985-86. Its share increased by 4.39% per year on average. Its share had an increasing trend during the whole period with some sorts of fluctuation. The average rate of increase of her exports to this region was 20.35% per annum.

The share of East European Region decreased from 11.48% percent in 1977-78 to 4.84% in 1985-86. The average rate of decrease of its share was 9.15% per year. During the whole period under review its share had a decreasing trend. However, her exports to this region increased by 4.74% per year.

The share of Oceania in aggregate exports of Bangladesh decreased from 2.75% in 1977-78 to 1.5% in 1985-86. The average rate of decrease of its share was 5.5% per annum. Its share had an increasing trend upto 1980-81 and since then a decreasing trend. However, her exports to this region increased by 7.78% per annum on average.

The share of others (Austria, Finland, Greece, Iceland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland) decreased from 2.51%

in 1977-78 to 1.31% in 1985-86. Their share decreased by 6.97% per annum on average. Three-year moving average shows that their share had a static trend with presence of fluctuations. Bangladesh exports to these regions increased by 7.25% per annum on average.

Table : 5.1

Share of different regions in Bangladesh Exports during 1977-78 to 1985-86

Percentage share in Bangladesh Exports								
Year	Asia region	EEC count- ries	Afri- can regions	Middle East	Ameri- can Region	East Euro- pean region	Oceania	Others
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1977-78	19.62	20.29	17.38	9.76	16.21	11.48	2.75	2.51
1978-79	21.39	22.25	15.20	7.55	16.00	12.88	2.86	1.87
1979-80	21.74	19.51	13.44	11.42	16.44	9.88	4.51	3.06
1980-81	27.03	13.13	19.85	11.25	13.96	8.92	3.86	2.00
1981-82	28.39	17.40	17.87	10.60	9.13	10.04	4.05	2.52
1982-83	27.65	18.58	13.14	13.13	13.03	10.40	2.25	1.82
1983-84	23.95	24.68	8.63	15.96	15.63	5.47	3.08	2.60
1984-85	22.49	22.97	9.88	12.13	20.57	6.95	1.91	3.10
1985-86	24.35	20.26	13.25	10.63	23.86	4.84	2.97	1.31
Average	24.06	19.90	14.29	11.38	16.09	8.98	2.97	2.31
Average Annual rate of growth of share (%)								
	2.43	-0.02	-2.97	0.95	4.39	-9.15	-6.51	-6.97
Average Annual rate of growth of Exports (%)								
	18.09	15.27	11.86	16.38	20.35	4.74	7.78	7.25

Source : Appendix Table : 10

Table : 5.2
Three-year moving average of share of different regions in aggregate exports of Bangladesh during 1977-78 to 1979-80

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8
1977-78	20.29	17.38	17.38	9.76	16.21	11.48	2.75	2.51
1978-79	20.68	15.34	15.34	9.58	16.22	11.40	3.37	2.48
1979-80	18.30	16.16	16.16	10.07	15.43	10.56	3.74	2.31
1980-81	16.68	17.05	17.05	11.09	13.18	9.61	4.14	2.53
1981-82	16.37	16.95	16.95	11.66	12.04	9.78	3.39	2.11
1982-83	20.22	13.21	13.21	13.23	12.60	8.64	3.13	2.31
1983-84	22.08	10.55	10.55	13.74	16.41	7.61	2.41	2.51
1984-85	22.64	10.59	10.59	12.91	20.01	5.73	2.16	2.34

Source : Table : 5.1

Note: Each column indicates same region as Table 5.1

The share of Asia region, Middle East and American region was increasing in aggregate exports of Bangladesh while the share of other regions was declining. But her exports was increasing in all regions. The average rate of growth was the highest in American region which was followed respectively by Asia region, Middle East, EEC and African region. Her exports growth was the lowest in East European region.

5.3 CHANGING PATTERN OF BANGLADESH EXPORTS IN MAJOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES

We have seen the macro level change of Bangladesh exports in previous section. Now we want to see the changing pattern of her exports at micro level (i.e. at country level). This analysis would help us to find out changes of her exports that have taken place in different countries over a period of time and also will give indication for future prospects on the basis of past change.

Bangladesh exports commodities to a good number of countries each year. For instance her commodities were exported to 100 countries in 1985-86. But the shares of all countries in her aggregate exports are not equal. Share of some countries are highly significant while those of others are insignificant. On the basis of shares of importing countries in her aggregate exports in 1985-86 we have selected 12 countries as major partners of Bangladesh exports. The countries whose individual share in aggregate exports of the country was not less than 2 percent in 1985-86 have been selected in the group. The total share of these countries was 53.94% in 1972-73 and 67.99% in 1985-86 in aggregate exports of Bangladesh. If we consider the

countries whose individual share was more than 0.95% in aggregate exports of Bangladesh in 1985-86, the number of major importers comes to 21. These countries together contribute 70.29% in 1976-77 and 80.29% in 1985-86 to her aggregate exports.

We have computed year-wise share, three-year moving average of share and average annual rate of increase of share and exports to these countries. Results are presented in table 5.3 and table 5.4.

The U.S.A. was the largest importer of Bangladesh exports. The share of U.S.A. in her exports increased from 19.28% in 1972-73 to 20.69% in 1985-86. This was 7.26% rise in 1985-86 over 1972-73. The average rate of increase of its share was 0.5% per annum. Its share was declining upto 1980-81 and since then was increasing. The Bangladesh exports to this country increased by 18.04% per annum on an average.

Japan was the second highest importer of Bangladesh exports in 1985-86. Its share in aggregate exports of the country increased from 2.07% in 1972-73 to 7.71% in 1985-86. The average rate of increase of its share was 9.85% per annum. Its share was increasing during the whole period under review with some fluctuations. The average rate of increase of her exports to Japan was 29.0% per annum.

Iran occupied the third position with regard to her share in aggregate exports of Bangladesh. Her share increased from 1.31% in 1972-73 to 6.23% in 1985-86. Her share increased by 15.59% per annum. It was increasing during the period under review with presence of wider fluctuations. The average rate of increase

of her imports from Bangladesh was 35.74% per annum.

Sudan was the fourth big importer of Bangladesh exports. Her share increased from 1.73% in 1972-73 to 5.36% in 1985-86. The rate of increase of her share was 8.41% per annum. Her imports from Bangladesh increased by 27.37% per annum.

United Kingdom (U.K.) was the fifth big importer of Bangladesh exports. Her share decreased from 13.28% in 1972-73 to 5.03% in 1985-86. Her share decreased by 6.7% per annum. Its share was declining during 1973-74 to 1981-82 and since then was increasing. However, her imports from Bangladesh increased by 9.59% per annum on average.

Italy was the sixth importer of Bangladesh exports. Her share increased from 2.99% in 1972-73 to 4.51% in 1985-86. The average rate of increase of her share was 2.96% per annum. Her share had a static trend with some sorts of fluctuation. Her imports increased by 20.95% per annum on average from Bangladesh.

Pakistan was the seventh importer with respect to her share in 1985-86. Her share increased from 1.34% in 1975-76 to 4.28% in 1985-86. It increased by 11.13% per annum on average. Bangladesh exports to Pakistan increased by 30.07% per annum on average. Its share had an increasing trend with presence of fluctuations.

Singapore was the eighth importer of her exports. Her share increased from 1.31% in 1972-73 to 3.14% in 1985-86. It increased by 6.44% per annum on average. Its share had increasing trend between 1972-73 and 1981-82 and afterwards a decreasing trend. Bangladesh exports to Singapore increased by 25.05% per annum on average.

Belgium was the ninth importer country of Bangladesh exports. Her share decreased from 4.48% in 1972-73 to 3.11% in 1985-86. The average rate of decrease of her share was 2.57% per annum. Her share had a declining trend upto 1981-82 and since then a slight increasing trend. The average rate of increase of her imports from Bangladesh was 14.44% per annum on average.

USSR was the tenth importer of Bangladesh exports. Her share decreased from 5.53% in 1972-73 to 3.10% in 1985-86. The average rate of decrease of her share was 4.04% percent per annum. Her share had an increasing trend upto 1978-79 and since then a declining trend. The average rate of increase of her imports from Bangladesh was 12.71% per annum.

China was the eleventh importer of Bangladesh exports. Her share increased from 0.94% in 1975-76 to 2.68% in 1985-86. The average rate of increase of her share was 9.99% per annum during 1975-76 to 1985-86. Her share had an increasing trend upto 1978-79 and afterwards^a decreasing trend. Bangladesh exports increased by 28.68% per annum to China.

Federal Republic of Germany (F.R.G.) was the twelfth importer of Bangladesh exports. Her share in the exports of the country decreased from 2.46% in 1972-73 to 2.16% in 1985-86. The average rate of decrease of her share was 0.92% per year. Its share had a static trend with little fluctuations during the whole period. Her imports from Bangladesh increased by 16.35% per annum on average.

The share of U.S.A. Japan, Iran, Sudan, Italy, Pakistan, Singapore and China was increasing while the share of others was declining in aggregate exports of Bangladesh. But her exports to

Table : 5.3

The share of major importing countries in Bangladesh exports during 1972-73 to 1985-86

Year	Percentage share											
	USA	Japan	Iran	Sudan	UK	Italy	Pakis-	Singa-	Belgium	USSR	China	FRG
							tan	pore				
1972-73	19.28	2.07	0.82	1.73	13.28	2.99	N11	1.31	4.48	5.53	N11	2.46
1973-74	19.51	4.48	2.15	1.69	8.99	2.63	N11	1.32	3.56	5.99	N11	1.49
1974-75	14.92	1.56	3.5	2.98	7.16	2.36	N11	1.61	3.15	7.50	N11	1.36
1975-76	16.41	2.66	3.71	1.53	6.72	5.92	1.34	4.03	2.87	3.17	0.94	1.67
1976-77	15.67	2.60	2.92	1.26	10.05	5.35	5.03	1.59	3.30	4.65	1.8	1.94
1977-78	13.58	3.36	2.83	4.14	6.88	3.23	9.22	1.98	3.11	6.23	3.79	1.61
1978-79	14.91	5.48	2.15	1.97	6.88	5.85	7.27	1.13	2.58	8.01	4.84	2.44
1979-80	10.89	5.69	4.99	4.47	6.96	5.74	4.98	4.15	3.04	6.6	3.14	1.68
1980-81	9.48	2.67	5.97	4.99	4.29	2.97	7.21	7.7	2.25	4.12	3.61	1.62
1981-82	9.77	4.15	3.90	0.78	5.08	3.23	5.45	10.71	2.17	5.38	2.50	1.72
1982-83	12.89	6.41	3.32	2.71	4.63	2.93	6.51	9.14	3.47	5.50	3.56	1.62
1983-84	12.48	6.87	12.34	1.76	6.96	6.65	7.23	2.54	4.46	2.53	1.53	1.44
1984-85	16.53	6.98	4.82	1.39	6.54	4.85	5.00	2.98	7.03	3.58	0.92	2.05
1985-86	20.68	7.71	6.23	5.36	5.03	4.51	4.28	3.14	3.11	3.10	2.68	2.16
Average Annual rate of Growth of Share (%)												
0.5	9.85	15.59	8.41	2.98	11.13	6.44	2.57	7.04	9.99	-0.92		
10.04	29.01	35.74	27.37	9.59	20.95	30.07	25.05	14.44	12.71	28.68	16.35	

Source : Appendix Table : 10

Table : 5.4

The trends of Major Importers share in Bangladesh Exports during 1972-73 to 1985-86.

Year	Three - year Moving Average of Share									
	USA	Japan	Iran	Sudan	U.K.	Italy	Pakis- tan	Singa- pore	Belgium	USSR China FRG
1973-74	17.09	2.70	2.15	2.13	9.81	2.66		1.41	3.73	6.34 1.77
1974-75	16.95	2.90	3.12	2.06	7.62	3.64		2.32	3.19	5.55 1.51
1975-76	15.67	2.70	3.38	1.92	7.98	4.54		2.41	3.11	5.11 1.66
1976-77	15.22	2.87	3.15	2.31	7.88	4.83	5.20	2.53	3.09	4.68 1.74
1977-78	14.72	3.81	2.63	2.46	7.94	4.81	7.17	1.57	2.99	6.30 1.99
1978-79	13.13	4.84	3.32	3.53	6.91	4.94	7.16	2.52	2.91	6.95 1.91
1979-80	11.76	4.61	4.37	3.81	6.04	4.85	6.49	4.43	2.62	6.24 1.91
1980-81	10.05	4.17	4.95	3.41	5.44	3.98	5.88	7.62	2.49	5.37 1.67
1981-82	10.71	4.41	4.40	2.83	4.66	3.04	6.39	9.18	2.63	5.02 1.65
1982-83	11.71	5.81	6.52	1.75	5.56	4.27	6.40	7.46	3.37	4.49 1.59
1983-84	13.97	6.75	6.83	1.95	6.04	4.81	6.25	4.89	4.99	3.89 1.70
1984-85	16.56	7.19	7.80	2.84	6.18	5.34	5.50	2.89	4.89	3.07 1.71 1.88

Source : Table : 5.3

Table : 5.4(b)

The share of major importing countries in Bangladesh exports:
Percentage share

Countries	1976-77	1985-86
U. S.A.	15.67	20.68
Japan	2.60	7.71
Pakistan	5.03	4.28
U.K.	10.05	5.03
Sudan	1.26	5.36
Italy	5.35	4.51
Iran	2.92	6.23
Singapore	1.59	3.14
F.R.G.	1.94	2.16
China	1.8	2.68
U.S.S.R.	4.65	3.10
Netherlands	1.89	1.73
Canada	1.52	1.42
Turkey	1.22	1.33
Australia	2.79	1.48
Egypt	3.51	1.16
India	1.01	0.96
Tanzania	0.97	1.35
Bulgaria	1.02	1.39
Belgium	3.30	3.11
Iraq	0.20	1.48
Total	70.29	80.29

Sources: Calculated on the basis of data available in Annual
 Export Receipts 1985-86, Bangladesh Bank.

all major importing countries was increasing. Her exports to Iran was increasing at the highest rate which was followed by Pakistan, Japan, China, Sudan, Singapore, Italy, U.S.A. and FRG.

5.4 CHANGING PATTERN OF COMMODITY COMPOSITION OF BANGLADESH EXPORTS TO MAJOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES

In previous section we have seen the changing pattern of Bangladesh exports in major importing countries. We have analysed there the changing pattern of aggregate exports. In the present section we shall analyse the changing pattern of commodity composition of Bangladesh exports in major importing countries over a period of time. This analysis would show how the exports of different commodities of Bangladesh were changing in different countries and which commodities were losing and which ones were gaining relative importance in major importer's markets.

As major importers we have treated the countries as we have chosen in previous sections. Depending upon the availability of data we selected the period from 1981-82 to 1985-86. We have calculated the share, average growth rate of share of different commodities in total exports to selected countries. We have also calculated average growth rate of exports of different commodities exported to those countries. We have covered the major commodities. Besides sometimes we have discussed some commodities out of major ones when in case of some countries their contribution seems high but not shown in the table.

U.S.A.

United States of America (USA) imports a good number of

commodities from Bangladesh. For instance it imported about 21 commodities from Bangladesh in 1985-86. But share of all commodities in her imports from Bangladesh was not significant. So we have limited our analysis to mainly major commodities. In addition we have accepted one commodity frog legs in our discussion because its export was regular and consists 4.80% share in 1985-86 of the total exports to USA. Jute goods was the first export item with regards to its relative share in total exports to USA in 1981-82. But its share decreased from 73.47% in 1981-82 to 22.6% in 1985-86. The average rate of decrease of its share was 21% per annum. However, the export receipts of this item earned from USA increased by 9.35% per annum on an average. Its share was decreasing due to rapid rise of some other commodities exported to USA.

Garments exports to USA was increasing very rapidly. Its share increased from 4.13% in 1981-82 to 61.98% in 1985-86 with 71.94% average rate of rise. Its total exports increased by 137.92% per annum on average.

Similarly the share of shrimps increased by 2.87% per annum on average. Its total exports to USA increased by 42.39% per annum on average. Raw jute export to USA was increasing at a slow rate of 1.18% per annum while its share was declining by 26.97% per annum on average. Exports of leather to USA along with its share was decreasing by 6.3% and 32.24% per annum on average respectively. Exports of tea to this country was increasing by 5.36% but its share was decreasing by 22.16% per annum on average. Exports of frog legs to USA increased by 38.82% per annum and its share in total exports increased by 0.29% per annum during

1981-82 to 1985-86.

JAPAN

In 1985-86 Japan imported more than 28 commodities from Bangladesh. Among these commodities the main ones were shrimps, jute manufactures, raw jute, leather and tea.

The share of shrimps in her imports from Bangladesh decreased from 78.71% in 1981-82 to 70.21% in 1985-86 with average rate of decrease of 2.26% per annum. However, its total exports to this country increased by 23.91% per annum on average.

The share of jute manufactures in Bangladesh exports to Japan increased from 4.36% in 1981-82 to 16.54% in 1985-86 with 30.44% rate of increase per annum on average. Its exports to this country rose by 65.36% per annum on average.

The other commodities which were losing share in total exports of Bangladesh to Japan were raw jute, leather and tea. However, their exports was increasing by 0.15%, 21.53% and 3.21% per annum on average respectively during 1981-82 to 1985-86. Bangladesh garments entered Japan in 1985-86 for the first time.

IRAN

Bangladesh exports mainly jute manufactures, raw jute, jute yarn and tea to Iran. The share of jute manufactures decreased from 91.05% in 1981-82 to 84.98% in 1985-86 with average rate of decrease of 1.37% per annum. However, its total exports to Iran was increasing at a rate of 22.19% per annum on average. The share of raw jute increased from 3.20% in 1981-82 to 8.06% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 20.29%.

Similarly its exports increased at a rate of 49.01% per annum on average during the same period. The exports of jute yarn to Iran increased by 18.95% per annum while its share decreased by 4.06% per annum on average.

The exports of tea to Iran increased at the highest rate of 132.57% per annum on average. Vis-a-vis its share in total exports to Iran increased from 0.07% in 1981-82 to 1.71% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 89.49%.

SUDAN

Sudan imports few commodities from Bangladesh. It imported four commodities in 1985-86. These commodities were jute manufactures, jute yarn, tea and handicrafts.

Among these commodities jute manufactures exported to Sudan was regular during 1981-82 to 1985-86. Exports of other commodities were irregular.

The share of jute manufactures increased from 97.96% in 1981-82 to 99.7% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 0.35%. Total exports of jute manufactures there increased by 52.33% per annum on average.

Bangladesh tea export to Sudan was sporadic. Among 5 years period tea was exported to Sudan in two years. Its share was 1.88% in 1981-82 and 0.03% in 1985-86. The other commodity which was exported almost regularly there was jute yarn and twine. Its share increased by 10.19% per annum from 0.61% in 1981-82 to 0.26% in 1985-86. Its export increased by 67.24% per annum on average.

UNITED KINGDOM (U.K.)

Bangladesh exports a good number of commodities to U.K. each year. She exported there more than 30 commodities in 1985-86. Among these commodities the following were main: Jute manufactures, tea, shrimps, raw jute, leather, frog legs and garments. Among above commodities garments exports showed the best performance which was followed by shrimps. Garments export to U.K. increased by 62.36% per annum and its share increased by 36.26% per annum on an average. The exports and share of shrimps increased by 38.06% and 15.82% per annum on average respectively. The exports as well as share in total exports to U.K. declined for tea, leather and frog legs. Raw jute exports to U.K. increased slowly while its share reduced. The exports of jute manufactures and its share in Bangladesh exports to U.K. increased by 31.57% and 10.38% per annum on average respectively.

ITALY

Bangladesh exported about 14 items to Italy in 1985-86. Among these leather, shrimps, jute manufactures, raw jute and garments were main export items of Bangladesh. Among the above commodities the export performance of raw jute was the best which was respectively followed by jute manufactures and garments with regard to growth of their exports and share in total exports to Italy during 1981-82 to 1985-86. The share of leather decreased by 2.93% per annum from 84.03% in 1981-82 to 72.4% in 1985-86 on average. However, its exports increased by 8.05% per annum on an average. The share of shrimps decreased from 11.66% in 1981-82 to 10.92% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 1.30%.

Its exports however increased by 9.87% per annum on average.

PAKISTAN

Bangladesh usually exports a number of commodities to Pakistan. She exported more than 22 commodities to Pakistan in 1985-86. Among these commodities tea, raw jute, jute manufactures, betel leaves and bamboo were principal items.

Among the above principal export items raw jute showed better performance. Its share as well as total exports to Pakistan increased during 1981-82 to 1985-86. Conversely the export performance of tea was worse in Pakistan market. Its exports as well as shares in country's total exports there was declining. The share of jute manufactures was reducing at a rate of 7.9% per annum while its export was enhancing at a very slow rate of 0.04% per annum on average.

SINGAPORE

Singapore imports a number of commodities from Bangladesh. She imported more than 26 commodities in 1985-86 from Bangladesh. Among these commodities jute manufacture, raw jute, shrimps, tea, leather, garments, napths and jute yarn were important.

The share of jute manufactures increased by 2.4% per annum from 7.85% in 1981-82 to 8.84% in 1985-86. Its exports to Singapore increased by 12.09% per annum. The share and exports of raw jute increased by 23.55% and 40.57% per annum respectively during 1982-83 to 1985-86. Its share increased from 2.34% in 1982-83 to 28.75% in 1985-86. There was no raw jute export there in 1981-82.

The share of shrimps increased from 0.05% in 1981-82 to

1.31% in 1984-85. There was no shrimps export to Singapore in 1985-86.

The share of leather increased from 0.13% in 1983-84 to 1.66% in 1985-86. There was no export of leather in 1981-82 and 1982-83. The share of garments export increased from 0.31% in 1981-82 to 3.28% in 1985-86 with average rate of increase of 60.29%. Its exports increased by 74.27% per annum on average.

The share of jute yarn decreased from 0.17% in 1981-82 to 0.09% in 1985-86. Along with share its export decreased by 4.34% per annum on average. Naptha constituted the highest share in Bangladesh exports to Singapore. Its share decreased from 60.53% in 1981-82 to 50.74% in 1985-86. Its share decreased by 3.74% per annum while its exports increased by 4.98% per annum on an average.

BELGIUM

Bangladesh exported 12 commodities to Belgium during 1981-82 to 1985-86. Among these jute manufactures, shrimps, jute yarn, raw jute, leather, frog legs and garments were main export commodities. The share of jute manufactures increased from 20.01% in 1981-82 to 37.88% in 1985-86 with 13.61% rate of increase per annum on average. Its exports increased by 43.38% per annum on average.

The share of jute yarn decreased from 12.58% in 1981-82 to 10.43% in 1985-86 with 3.68% average rate of decrease per annum. However its exports increased by 15.96% per annum on average. The share of raw jute decreased from 27.25% in 1981-82 to 17.84% in 1985-86 with 8.12% average rate of decrease per annum. However its exports increased by 15.96% per annum on average.

The share of leather decreased from 5.99% in 1981-82 to 0.13% in 1985-86 with 53.52% average rate of decrease per annum. Its exports decreased by 41.12% per annum on average.

The share of frog legs decreased from 2.4% in 1981-82 to 1.38% in 1985-86 with 10.48% average annual rate of decrease. However its exports increased by 13.03% per annum on average.

The share of garments export decreased from 1.56% in 1982-83 to 0.06% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 48%. Its exports decreased by 52.16% per annum on average.

U.S.S.R.

Bangladesh exported 7 commodities to USSR in 1985-86. Among these commodities jute manufactures, raw jute, leather and tea were principal commodities.

The share of jute manufactures decreased from 29.39% in 1981-82 to 22.86% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 4.9%. Its exports decreased by 8.67% per annum on average. Similarly the share of raw jute decreased from 40.11% in 1981-82 to 36.32% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 1.96% per annum. Its exports decreased by 5.54% per annum on average.

The share of leather increased from 22.27% in 1981-82 to 23.19% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 0.81%. Though its share increased but its exports there decreased by 2.96% per annum on average. This was so because Bangladesh total exports to USSR was decreasing by this period. The share of tea increased from 7.57% in 1981-82 to 16.33% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 16.63%. Its exports increased by 12.27% per annum on average.

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Bangladesh exports few commodities to China. She exported 4 commodities to China in 1985-86. Among these commodities only raw jute and leather were regular export items during 1981-82 to 1985-86.

The share of raw jute increased from 54.04% in 1981-82 to 58.42% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 1.57%. During this period its exports increased by 19.73% per annum on average.

The share of leather exports decreased from 40.03% in 1981-82 to 26.48% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 7.93%. However, its exports increased by 8.53% per annum on average.

During 5 years period jute manufactures were exported to China in two years. Its share in total exports to China was 0.01% in 1981-82 and 3.67% in 1984-85. Tea and garments entered Chinese market for the first in 1985-86 during the period under review. Their share was 14.13% and 0.97% respectively.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY (F.R.G.)

Bangladesh exported 18 commodities to F.R.G. in 1985-86. Readymade garments, shrimps, jute manufactures, leather, raw jute, tea and frog legs were the main commodities of Bangladesh exports to F.R.G.

The share of garments increased from 1.85% in 1981-82 to 25.07% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 68.42%. Its exports increased by 103.73% per annum on average.

The share of shrimps decreased slightly from 26.69% in

Table : 5.5

The changing pattern of Exports of major commodities in major importing countries during

1981-82 to 1985-86

Average growth (%)

Countries	Jute goods 2	Raw Jute 3	Garments 4	Shrimps 5	Leather 6	Tea 87	3
U.S.A.	-21.00	-26.97	71.94	2.87	-32.24	-22.16	Share
	9.35	1.18	137.92	42.39	- 6.3	5.36	Export
JAPAN	30.44	-20.98	N.E.	-2.26	- 4.14	-18.78	Share
	65.36	0.15		23.91	21.53	3.21	Export
IRAN	- 1.37	20.29	-	-	-	89.49	Share
	22.19	49.01	-	-	-	132.57	Export
SUDAN	0.35	-	-	-	-	-	Share
	52.33	-	-	-	-	-	Export
U.K.	10.38	-14.31	36.26	15.82	-25.21	-18.85	Share
	31.57	2.14	62.36	38.06	-10.87	- 4.47	Export
ITALY	64.39	115.26	41.92	-1.3	- 2.93	-	Share
	82.39	142.58	58.10	9.87	8.05	-	Export

cont.

Table : 5.5 (cont.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
PAKISTAN	13.45	13.95	-	-	-	-8.73	Share
	23.23	23.33	-	-	-	-0.87	Exports
SINGAPORE	2.40	23.55	60.29	92.16	133.73	-66.50	Share
	12.09	40.57	74.27	110.76	132.33	-77.08	Export
BELGIUM	13.61	-8.12	-48.01	1.04	-53.52	-	Share
	43.38	15.96	-52.16	27.52	-41.12	-	Export
U.S.S.R.	-4.90	-1.96	-	-	0.81	16.63	Share
	-8.67	-5.64	-	-	- 2.96	12.27	Export
F.R.G.	12.24	-15.82	68.42	-1.51	2.41	-33.66	Share
	35.76	1.82	103.73	19.15	23.88	-19.77	Export
CHINA	5	1.57	N.E.	-	-7.93	N.E.	Share
		19.73		-	8.53		Export

Note: N.E. : New Entries in 1985-86 Source: Calculated on the basis of data published by Export Promotion Bureau Bangladesh, Dhaka in "Bangladesh Export Statistics", 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86.

5 : Sporadic

- : Negligible or nil

1981-82 to 24.74% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 1.51%. However its exports increased by 19.15% per annum on average.

The share of jute manufactures increased from 11.48% in 1981-82 to 20.45% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 12.24%. Its exports increased by 35.76% per annum on average.

The share of leather increased from 11.95% in 1981-82 to 13.46% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of increase of 2.41%. Its exports increased by 23.88% per annum on average.

The share of raw jute decreased from 12.3% in 1981-82 to 5.2% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 1.82%. Its exports however increased by 1.82% per annum on average. The share of tea decreased from 16.03% in 1981-82 to 2.06% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 33.66%. Its exports decreased by 19.77% per annum on average.

The share of frog legs decreased from 2.65% in 1981-82 to 1.76% in 1985-86 with average annual rate of decrease of 7.86%. However its exports increased by 11.54% per annum on average.

5.5 BEHAVIOUR OF BANGLADESH EXPORTS IN MAJOR IMPORTING COUNTRIES

Bangladesh exports commodities in a good number of countries of the world. The rate of growth of her exports can not be same in all countries. The growth of her exports depends on different variables on demand and supply sides. On the demand side it relies on rate of growth of income, income elasticity of demand, population growth, supply of substitutes, price of the exports, price of substitutes, growth of exports of competitors,

import policies etc. In the supply side it depends mainly on level of production of the goods and its domestic demand, export policies of the government etc.

Here we want to see how Bangladesh exports were growing in major importing countries in comparison with growth rate of their imports from all countries other than Bangladesh. That is we are interested in examining whether Bangladesh exports to major importing countries were lagging behind or advancing ahead of their total imports with respect to growth over a period of time. This analysis will help to answer the following questions: Whether the growth rate of total imports of her major importers is high or low. If it is high then Bangladesh may have better scope to expand her exports to that country and vice versa. If the growth rate of Bangladesh exports becomes more than that of total imports of an importing country, it assumes that Bangladesh has been able to improve her competitive position over other exporting countries competing with her in the markets of that importer and vice versa.

With the above view in mind we have selected 17 countries depending on their share in Bangladesh total exports and availability of required data to examine the behaviour of her exports in those importing countries. The country whose share was above 0.95% in total exports of Bangladesh in 1985-86 have been selected in the group. Total number of countries that fulfilled above criterion were 21. But 4 countries like China, Iraq, Turkey, and Tanzania have been omitted from the group due to lack of required data. The growth rates of Bangladesh exports to 17 selected countries in US dollar terms have been computed

uniformly by compound interest formula for the period from 1973-74 to 1984-85. The dollar values of her exports in selected countries have been obtained by multiplying the volume exports in taka term by respective year's official exchange rates between taka and US dollar.

Similarly the growth rates of total imports of selected countries from countries other than Bangladesh during 1973 and 1984 have been computed uniformly by the same formula. Their imports from Bangladesh have been excluded from total imports. Due to lack of data of Bangladesh exports to selected countries in calendar year we have used data in financial year. So we have had to compare the financial year with calendar year. But in both cases the length of period is the same. Only difference is that our financial year starts 6 months late (i.e. on 1st July, 1973) and ends 6 months after (i.e. on 30th June, 1985). It is expected that within 12 years period 6 months difference would have little influence on the results. Table 5.6 presents the growth rates of Bangladesh exports to selected countries and their total imports from all countries other than Bangladesh. This table reveals that the growth rate of Bangladesh exports to U.S.A. was 8.15% per annum while the growth rate of USA's total imports from all countries excluding Bangladesh was 13.51% per annum during the period under review. That is Bangladesh's exports to USA was lagging behind by 5.36 percentage points than the growth rate of her total imports from other countries. So it may be remarked that the competitors of Bangladesh exports were doing better than her in USA. The higher rate of growth of USA's total imports indicates that Bangladesh still may have

Table : 5.6

The growth rates of Bangladesh exports to 17 selected countries, and growth rates of their (17 selected countries) total imports during 1973 to 1984

Countries	1973-74 to 1984-85	1973 to 1984	Difference
	Growth of Bangladesh Exports(%)	Growth of total imports from all other countries	(X - Y) Percentage points
	X	Y (%)	
U.S.A.	8.15	13.51	-5.36
Japan	13.18	11.17	2.01
Iran ¹	27.68	16.55	11.13
Sudan ¹	9.34	10.85	-1.51
U.K.	6.23	8.80	-2.57
Italy	26.46	10.54	15.92
Pakistan ²	14.80	9.61	5.19
Singapore	16.73	15.40	1.33
Belgium	15.43	7.95	7.48
U.S.S.R.	4.50	11.81	-7.31
F.R.G.	12.05	8.82	3.23
Netherlands	11.85	8.25	3.60
Canada	6.99	10.10	-3.11
Australia	3.12	10.74	-7.62
Egypt	5.32	22.78	-27.46
India	6.02	13.31	- 7.29
Bulgaria	11.87	11.99	- 0.12

Notes: 1. Period (X) : 1973-74 to 1983-84, Period (y)
: 1973 to 1984.

2. Period (X) : 1975-76 to 1984-85, Period (y) : 1975
to 1984.

Sources: Appendix Tables 5, 10 and 11.

potentialities to expand her exports in USA markets. Similarly the rate of growth of her exports was lagging behind the rate of growth of total imports in the countries like Sudan, U.K., USSR, Canada, Australia, Egypt, India and Bulgaria. In these countries the export performance of Bangladesh is worse than that of her competitors. If Bangladesh can improve her competitiveness in the markets of these countries she may be able to expand her exports. This possibility is also endorsed by the high rate of growth of total imports of almost all above countries.

On the other hand Bangladesh export's growth rate was advancing ahead of the rate ^{of} growth of total imports of Japan, Iran, Pakistan, Italy, Singapore, Belgium, F.R.G. and Netherlands. In these countries her export performance was better than that of her competitors. So Bangladesh export performance was worse in 9 countries and better in 8 countries out of 17 countries than her competitors during 1973 to 1984.

The rate of growth of total imports of all countries except U.K., Italy, Belgium, F.R.G. and Netherland was higher than 10% per annum. This high rate of growth of imports of those countries again indicates that Bangladesh still has some prospects to expand her exports to their markets.

5.6 GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF BANGLADESH EXPORTS

"The most important implication of the recognition of many partner countries to trade rather than a single country is that the number of such partners is an important element in the determination of the extent of vulnerability of the countries

trade flow" (Michael 1984, p. 71). A country which conducts its trade exclusively with a single foreign country is highly vulnerable. If there occurs fluctuation in the trade of partner's economy there is no scope of it to be compensated by fluctuations in other markets. But if the number of partners is more than the influence of fluctuations in one market may be minimised by other markets. This will be possible when fluctuations in foreign markets are accidental and not synchronised. Fluctuations which are due to some general universal cause such as world war, world inflation or recession will be shared by all or most of the countries and the minimising factors will be absent.

In addition to the above the home country is clearly subject to discretionary policy of its trade partner aimed to exert a pressure on it. Besides the possibility of expansion of export becomes limited by existence of single or few partners rather than large number of partners. Hence geographic diversification or dispersion is desirable for export of any country.

Export sector of a country develops with the passage of time and with the development of export sector the geographic dispersion of exports increases.

Bangladesh became independent about two decades back and its export sector has been performing better after independence. So it may be believed that the geographic concentration of her exports decreased over a period. To see what actually has happened we have computed the geographic concentration coefficient of her exports. Similarly like commodity concentration the geographic concentration is measured by the Gini-Hirschman coefficient of concentration. This time it is concentrated among

countries rather than among commodities. For distinguishing it from measure of commodity concentration this present index will be referred to as the geographic concentration of export flow. The geographic concentration of Bangladesh export designated by $G_B X$ will be : $G_B X = \sqrt{\sum_K (X_K/X_B)^2}$ where X_K = exports to country K by Bangladesh and X_B = total exports of goods by Bangladesh.

Once more the coefficients of geographic concentration are multiplied by 100 for convenience of presentation. The highest value will be 1 and the lowest value will be equivalent to $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ (where N = number of countries). Table 5.7 presents changing pattern geographic concentration of Bangladesh exports during 1972-73 to 1985-86. The table reveals that the number of countries where Bangladesh exported its goods decreased from 110 in 1972-73 to 100 in 1985-86.

One of the main reasons for this reduction was the loss of markets of raw jute and jute goods in many countries. Bangladesh exports have been concentrating in major importing countries. As a result very small partners went out of the list due to over emphasis of exporters to sell in big markets. Also it may be so that the very small importers are facing difficulties in shipment of their imports. Further competition among importers may be a cause for drop out of smaller importers. Her export items entered the highest number of 120 countries in 1983-84. Government policy and market drive measures were the main reasons for expansion of markets. During the whole period of time the number of importer countries varied from 100 to 120. The coefficient of geographic concentration of her exports increased by 1.31% from

26.7% in 1972-73 to 27.05% in 1985-86. The coefficient of geographic concentration was declining during 1972-73 to 1979-80 and increasing during 1980-81 to 1985-86 with some sorts of fluctuations. The maximum geographic dispersion of the country's export was achieved in 1979-80 in which $G_B H$ was the lowest. In this year the difference between $G_B X$ and $\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}}$ was the minimum 8.72 percentage points. The difference between $G_B X$ and $\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}}$ decreased from 17.17 percentage points in 1972-73 to 17.05 percentage points in 1985-86. That is the geographic dispersion of exports increased by 0.7% in 1985-86 over 1972-73. The average rate of increase of geographic dispersion of her exports was very low at 0.05 % per annum.

If we compare the figures in 1985-86 with any year of the period from 1972-73 to 1985-86 excluding 1972-73 it could be found that geographic concentration of her exports increased. Moreover the difference between $G_B X$ and $\sqrt{\frac{1}{N}}$ increased during 1980-81 to 1985-86. So it may be remarked that no geographic dispersion of Bangladesh exports took place during the period. Moreover the geographic concentration of her exports increased. This means that the absorption of her exports was concentrated in big importing countries. Her exports were not dispersed evenly among all the importing countries. This statement is also supported by the facts that the share of 21 big importers in her aggregate exports increased from 70.29% in 1976-77 to 80.29% in 1985-86.

The two main reasons for an increase of geographic concentration were: (1) Some expanding export items have been adsorbed by big importers and (2) Some other commodities like raw

Table : 5.7

Geographic concentration of Bangladesh exports during 1972-73
to 1985-86

Year	Nos. of Importing countries	Evenly distributed coefficient $\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ (%)	Coefficient of Geographic concentration G_B^X (%)	$G_B^X - \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$ Percentage point
1972-73	110	9.53	26.70	17.17
1973-74	108	9.62	24.91	15.29
1974-75	102	9.90	22.33	12.43
1975-76	109	9.58	23.05	13.47
1976-77	112	9.45	18.57	9.12
1977-78	114	8.37	22.23	12.36
1978-79	106	9.71	23.64	13.93
1979-80	103	9.86	18.58	8.72
1980-81	104	9.81	20.38	10.57
1981-82	106	9.71	21.35	11.64
1982-83	103	9.86	22.24	12.38
1983-84	120	9.13	24.07	14.94
1984-85	102	9.90	23.86	13.96
1985-86	100	10.00	27.05	17.05

Source : Computed on the basis of data published by Bangladesh Bank, Dhaka in "Annual Export receipts" 1978-79, Table iv, page 80-85 and 1985-86 Table iv page 178-184.

Note : Only those countries are taken into account whose export receipts were not less than one thousand taka.

jute and jute goods have lost their markets in many countries and squeezed their exports in selected few countries of the big importers group.

5.7 GEOGRAPHIC CONCENTRATION OF MAJOR EXPORT ITEMS

In the previous section we have seen the geographic concentration of Bangladesh' exports in totality. From that analysis we have not seen what has happened to individual commodities. So to analyse the geographic concentration of individual commodities we have selected the following commodities considering their importance in Bangladesh exports and depending on availability of data: Jute goods, raw jute, garments, shrimps, leather, tea, frog legs and fish. We have computed geographic concentration of these goods to see whether geographic dispersion of their exports increased or decreased over a period of time. Table 5.8 presents the results. The number of importing countries of Bangladesh jute manufactures decreased from 78 in 1981-82 to 31 in 1985-86. The coefficient of geographic concentration of her exports increased slightly. Similarly the number of importing countries of raw jute decreased from 47 in 1981-82 to 43 in 1985-86. The coefficient of geographic concentration of its exports increased from 25.96% in 1981-82 to 30.29% in 1985-86. Bangladesh raw jute and jute manufactures lost markets mainly due to sharp competition of substitute products and competition of other exporting countries. Even though the number of importing countries of her garments increased from 14 in 1981-82 to 20 in 1985-86, the coefficient of geographic concentration of its exports increased during the period. This was so because with an increase in number

of importing countries the export of garments was more unevenly distributed.

The same thing happened in case of her leather exports. The coefficient of geographic concentration of leather exports increased during the period with the rise of number of its importers.

The number of importing countries of Bangladesh shrimps decreased from 21 in 1981-82 to 15 in 1985-86. Analogously the dispersion of its export decreased. That is the coefficient of geographic concentration increased from 52.37% in 1981-82 to 52.81% in 1985-86.

The number of importing countries of Bangladesh tea increased from 20 in 1981-82 to 24 in 1985-86 and keeping pace with this its exports dispersed during the period. The reverse happened in case of frozen fish exports. The number of its importing countries decreased from 17 in 1981-82 to 15 in 1985-86. However the geographic diversification of its exports increased. Because among the existing importing countries its exports have been distributed more evenly.

In the case of frog legs exports, the coefficient of geographic concentration increased. The geographic concentration of garments increased at the highest rate which was followed by frog legs and raw jute respectively. It increased at the lowest rate for jute manufactures which was followed by leather and shrimps respectively. It decreased in case of tea and frozen fish during the period under review.

Table : 5.8

The geographic concentration of some selected export commodities of Bangladesh during
1981-82 to 1985-86
Geographic concentration (%)

Year	Jute goods	Raw Jute	Garments	Shrimps	Leather	Tea	Frozen fish	Frog legs
1981-82	26.2 (78)	25.96 (47)	47.23 (14)	52.39 (21)	46.3 (24)	59.99 (20)	60.33 (17)	58.81 (9)
1982-83	28.38 (82)	28.01 (48)	50.28 (17)	49.91 (21)	65.11 (22)	57.55 (20)	49.52 (17)	76.67 (10)
1983-84	35.59 (66)	29.14 (46)	60.82 (20)	53.25 (16)	70.52 (23)	53.74 (22)	41.81 (13)	52.51 (8)
1984-85	26.44 (30)	28.53 (43)	80.77 (14)	60.90 (17)	64.04 (27)	54.42 (24)	39.93 (14)	73.48 (6)
1985-86	26.73 (31)	30.29 (43)	82.03 (20)	52.81 (15)	46.67 (35)	43.05 (24)	47.12 (15)	97.98 (8)

Note: Figures in parenthesis indicate the number of importing countries.

Source: This Table is computed on the basis of statistics published by Export promotion Bureau Bangladesh, Dhaka in "Bangladesh export statistics", 1982-83, 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86.

The main causes of increase of geographic concentration were: (1) the share of big importers in exports of major commodities was increasing with rise of their exports and (2) many commodities of Bangladesh exports lost their small markets which again enhanced the share of big importers in most cases.

5.8 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

At macro level Bangladesh exports enter different regions of the world economy. Asian region (excluding middle East) had the largest share while Oceania had the smallest share in her aggregate exports. On the basis of relative importance in aggregate exports of Bangladesh during 1977-78 to 1985-86 different regions may be arranged in the following ascending order:

- a. Asian region (excluding Middle East)
- b. E.E.C. countries
- c. American region
- d. African region
- e. Middle East
- f. East European countries
- g. Oceania

The share of Asian region (excluding Middle East) and American region was increasing while the share EEC countries was almost constant in aggregate exports of Bangladesh. Conversely the share of other regions in her aggregate exports was declining.

It is noticeable that though the share of some regions declined in her aggregate exports, her value of exports increased in all the regions.

The number of countries whose individual share in aggregate exports of Bangladesh was 2% in 1985-86 and above was 12. The contribution of these countries together increased from 53.75% in 1972-73 to 67.99% in 1985-86. The number of countries whose individual share in aggregate exports of the country in 1985-86 was more than 0.95% was 21. Total share of these countries in the aggregate exports of the country increased from 70.29% in 1976-77 to 80.29% in 1985-86. U.S.A. had the highest share (20.68%) in the aggregate exports of Bangladesh which was followed respectively by Japan (7.71%), Iran (6.23%), Sudan (5.36%), U.K. (5.03%), Italy (4.51%) and Pakistan (4.28%) in 1985-86. The countries whose individual share ranged between 3.14% and 2.16% in 1985-86 were Singapore, Belgium, U.S.S.R., China and Federal Republic of Germany. The average rate of growth of Iran's share was the highest (15.50%) among all countries during 1972-73 to 1985-86 which was followed respectively by Pakistan (11.13%), China (9.99%), Japan (9.85%), Sudan (8.41%) and Singapore (6.44%).

Table 5.9 presents the performance of Bangladesh exports in major importing countries.

Table : 5.9

Performance of Bangladesh exports in major importing countries during 1972-73 to 1985-86.

↑R ↑S	↑R ↓S
Iran, Pakistan, China, Japan, Sudan, Singapore, U.S.A., Italy.	U.K., Belgium, U.S.S.R., F.R.G.

Note: S = Share, R = Exports, ↑ = rise ↓ = fall

Table 5.10 presents the brief performance of major export items of Bangladesh in big importing countries during 1981-82 to 1985-86.

The export of Bangladesh jute manufactures was increasing in all countries except U.S.S.R. during 1981-82 to 1985-86. Its share in total exports to country concerned was increasing in Japan, Sudan, U.K., Italy, Pakistan, Singapore and F.R.G. and decreasing in U.S.A., Iran and U.S.S.R. Jute manufactures entered China as export item in 1985-86 for the first time.

The export of raw jute was increasing in all countries except U.S.S.R. In U.S.S.R. both its share and exports were decreasing. Its share was increasing in Iran, Sudan, Italy, Pakistan, Singapore and China and decreasing in U.S.A., Japan, U.K., Belgium and F.R.G. Garments export as well as share was increasing in U.S.A., U.K., Italy, Singapore and F.R.G. Only in Belgium its share and export were decreasing. Garments were exported for the first time to Japan and China in 1985-86. The exports of shrimps along with its share was increasing in U.S.A., Japan, U.K., Singapore and Belgium. Its export was increasing with decrease of share in Italy and F.R.G.

The share of leather was increasing in Singapore, U.S.S.R. and F.R.G. and decreasing in U.S.A., Japan, U.K., Italy, Belgium and China. In case of U.S.S.R. its export was decreasing with an increase of share. It was unusual phenomenon. But it happened due to decline of Bangladesh total exports to U.S.S.R.

The export of tea along with its share in total exports to country concerned was increasing in Iran and U.S.S.R. and

Table : 5.10

Brief performance of Bangladesh major export commodities in big importing countries during 1981-82 to 1985-86.

Countries	Jute goods		Raw Jute		Garments		Shrimps		Leather		Tea	
U.S.A.	↓S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↓	↓S	R↑
Japan	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	N		↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↓S	R↑
Iran	↓S	R↑	↑S	R↑	-		-		-		↑S	R↑
Sudan	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	-		-		-		-	
U.K.	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↓	↓S	R↓
Italy	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↓S	R↑	-	
Pakistan	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	-		-		-		↓S	R↓
Singapore	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↓
Belgium	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↓S	R↓	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↓	-	
U.S.S.R.	↓S	R↓	↓S	R↓	-		-		↑S	R↓	↑S	R↑
China	N		↓S	R↑	N		-		↓S	R↑	N	
F.R.G.	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↑	↑S	R↑	↓S	R↓

Note : (-) Zero or negligible

S : Share

R : Export Receipts

N: New entry of commodity

↑ : rise ↓ : fall

Source : Previous Table

decreasing in U.K., Pakistan, Singapore and F.R.G. Its export was increasing while share decreasing in U.S.A. and Japan.

Out of 17 countries the average annual rate of growth of Bangladesh exports was higher than that of the total imports from other countries in the case of Japan, Iran, Pakistan, Italy, Singapore, Belgium, F.R.G. and Netherlands during 1973 to 1984. It reveals that the performance of Bangladesh exports was better in these countries than that of her competitors.

On the other hand the growth rate of her exports was lower than that of the total imports of the country concerned in the case of U.S.A., Sudan, U.K., U.S.S.R., Canada, Australia, Egypt, India and Belgium. Here her export performance was worse than that of her competitors.

The number of importing countries of Bangladesh exports decreased from 110 in 1972-73 to 100 in 1985-86. During the whole period the number ranged from 100 to 120. The number of importers decreased due to loss of markets of some major commodities along with other causes.

The coefficient of geographic concentration of her exports increased by 1.31% from 26.7% in 1972-73 to 27.05% in 1985-86.

Geographic concentration of her export was declining during 1972-73 to 1979-80 and was increasing during 1980-81 to 1985-86 with presence of fluctuations. So it could be remarked that no geographic dispersion of her exports took place during the period.

The number of importing countries decreased from 78 in 1981-82 to 31 in 1985-86 for jute manufactures and from 47 in

1981-82 to 43 in 1985-86 for raw jute. It reveals that the market for jute items was squeezing during the said period. The number of importing countries decreased in case of shrimps, frog legs and frozen fish and increased for garments, leather and tea.

Geographic concentration of exports items like raw jute, jute manufactures, garments, leather, shrimps and frog legs increased during 1981-82 to 1985-86. But it decreased in case of tea and frozen fish.

Geographic concentration was the highest for garments which was respectively followed by frog legs and raw jute in 1985-86.