

P R E F A C E

Export and Import activities have assumed a place of paramount importance in the development process of the Indian economy. As the trade policies are primarily aimed at bringing about the structural changes in export and import trade and as the Indian Government has imposed various import restriction policies, the present study aims at studying the structure of Indian imports in real terms along with in money terms and a comparative study of the two tends to fill the research gaps in the quantitative literature on the structure of Indian imports. The present study has also tested different hypotheses with respect to bilateralism in relation to Indian imports.

I would like to express my sincere feeling of gratitude to my guiding teacher Professor V.N. Kothari for his valuable guidance, suggestions and critical comments at every stage of the work. It was his kind encouragement and interest that helped me to continue and finish the present study. In spite of heavy pressure of work, he spent his precious time in going through most critically each and every word of the present thesis. Indeed I am fortunate in having him as my guide and owe the greatest debt to him.

I am obliged to Professor D.B. Gupte, Professor of

Economics, South Gujarat University, Surat, who spared his valuable time to discuss with me and give the insight into the subject and I take this opportunity to thank him.

I am equally grateful to Professor S.R. Hashim, Professor of Economics, M.S. University of Baroda for his suggestions and discussions in connection with the present work. I am also thankful to Dr. (Mrs.) M.N. Shah, Reader in Economics, for providing me her personal journals, when the University Library was closed during the anti-reservation agitation in Baroda and this helped me to continue my work.

I am also obliged to Indian Institute of Management Library, Ahmedabad, for kindly loaning me books and journals on inter-library loan basis during the process of my work. My thanks are due to British Council Library, British High Commission, Bombay and Bombay University Library, Western Regional Centre for sending me the Zerox copies of the required articles for the present work.

I am also grateful to the staff of Smt. Hansa Mehta Library (University Library), M.S. University, Baroda for providing me all types of library facilities.

My thanks are also due to the University Grants Commission, New Delhi for awarding me a Research Fellowship for a period of four years which enabled me to pursue my research work on a full time basis.

I am also thankful to Shri C.N. Kachhia for typing the present thesis decently and in time.

I am also thankful to my sisters, Pragna and Amita for providing a valuable assistance at every stage of my work.

Finally, I would like to express my deep feeling of gratitude to my parents, Prof. S.G. Kantawala and Mrs. V.S. Kantawala who have all along been an unending source of inspiration, encouragement and enthusiasm. Indeed, I can not adequately express in words what I owe to my parents.

Baroda  
2nd November 1981

B.S. Kantawala  
Bhavana S. Kantawala