

Determining comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products

Saiful Islam

Department of International Business
University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Keyword

Bangladesh, Comparative Advantage, Export Diversification, Footwear Products, Leather Goods, RCA index

Abstract

To address the current need for export diversification of Bangladesh, this study aims to determine the revealed comparative advantage of two potential industries of Bangladesh- leather goods and footwear products. In this regard, export patterns and performances of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products are analyzed from 2008 to 2017 using descriptive statistics, while the revealed comparative advantage is measured using the RCA index introduced by Balassa (1965). The results show that Bangladesh has revealed comparative advantage in both of its leather goods and footwear products with a gradual upward trend of RCA values. Footwear products show more stable incremental growth compare to leather goods. This study creates implications for policymakers to incorporate leather goods and footwear products in export diversification strategies of Bangladesh.

1. Introduction

Comparative advantage explains the ability of an economy to produce goods and services at an opportunity cost lower than its major trade competitors. Thus, the study of comparative advantage is significant for developing and least developed countries as they have a relatively small basket of export items. Determining the level of comparative advantage in selected industries opens the opportunity to recognize the export competitiveness and attain export diversification. Accordingly, this research concentrates on measuring the comparative advantage of selected industries in Bangladesh to identify the scope for export diversification. This study relates the current need of Bangladesh in diversifying its export bases to ensure further economic growth as it recently fulfilled all three eligibility criteria for graduation from the UN's Least Developed Countries (LDC) list.

Bangladesh located in South Asia is one of the five fastest-growing economies in the world, with a current growth rate of 7.3% (World Bank, 2019). Traditionally, this country has an abundance in the labor supply, and more than half of the workforce previously employed in the agricultural sector. However, in the late nineties, few labor-intensive industries were developed along with the expansion of service sectors. The development of these industries helps to increase the trade volume and presence of Bangladesh in the global economy. According to the World Bank indicators, currently, trade consists of 35% of the country's GDP combining 15% export and 20% import. Moreover, the primary industrial sector of the country- readymade garments accounted for more than 80% of the country's total exports in 2016-17 (Central Intelligence Agency, 2019). Such a higher percentage of trade dependency on a single industry urge for the concern of policymakers to diversify its export base in other industries.

In this regard, the government of Bangladesh is now more interested in expanding its export bases and attracting more foreign investments in a few identified potential sectors other than the traditional one. According to the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (2019), agri-business, garments, and textiles, ICT, leather and leather goods, electronics, plastics, light engineering, shipbuilding, tourism, ceramic, and medical equipment are few among those potential

sectors. The leather and leather goods sector contain the raw leather, leather goods, leather footwear, and other footwear. Thus, this sector includes both leather goods and footwear products, which are now a prime concern for policymakers to strategize. The current government incentives, the supply of good quality raw materials and abundant, low-cost labor make these two industries seem potential for the Bangladeshi economy. Thus, determining the comparative advantage and consequent potentiality of these industries is a prerequisite to develop strategies for export diversification through these industries.

Consequently, this research has been initiated to investigate the revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. To measure the comparative advantage, the export performance and pattern of these two industries are considered. In this regard, the main research question of the study is whether Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products have revealed comparative advantages. To answer this question, this study hypothesized that Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products have no export competitiveness. The answer to this research question is significant for the policymakers to set strategies for export diversification through leather goods and footwear products if findings show any revealed comparative advantage of Bangladesh on these industries. The finding is also crucial for the participants to set their export targets based on the overall position of the country in world export.

The paper is organized into six different sections, including this introduction section. The remaining of the paper is as follows. In section 2, the relevant literature on the revealed comparative advantage is presented to develop the research gap. Following that, the methodology of the study presents in section 3, where the calculation method of the RCA index, data and sources, and data analysis technique are outlined. Section 4 includes the analysis of significant findings of this study, followed by a relevant detail discussion of the analysis in section 5. The conclusion and significant implications of the study are presented in the final section of the paper. Moreover, the relevant references and appendix also included at the end of this paper.

2. Literature Review and Background

Due to the rapid globalization and trade liberalization, the determination of international competitiveness become one of the most critical issues in the economic analysis of developing and least developed countries. Such measurement of international competitiveness is traditionally significant for the policymakers and practitioners of the concerned industries. Historically, the comparative advantage theory was introduced by David Ricardo in 1817, where relative differences in labor productivity were considered (Abbas & Waheed 2017). However, authors also mentioned that, in the Heckscher-Ohlin (H-O) theory of comparative advantage, Heckscher (1919) and Ohlin (1952) focused on relative factor endowment and advised to attain competitive specialization and trade in the industries where those factors intensively used. On the other hand, Balassa (1965) introduced the concept of Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA) to measure the comparative advantage rather than presenting theoretical arguments like the theories mentioned above.

Balassa (1965) proposed the Revealed Comparative Advantage (RCA) by considering the trade performance and the pattern of selected industries, which reflects the relative costs and non-price factors. The author measured the export performance of specific industries in a country by dividing the country's export share of the selected commodity by country's export share in the total export of the world. This process generates a normalized index that compares the relative share of a country in the total export of the world for the specific commodity. Therefore, a country considered specialized in the export of a commodity when market share is higher than the average for that commodity, which usually expressed as higher than unity. Usually, the RCA index only reveals the relative position of export performance of selected industries, but often failed to explain the reason behind the performance. Moreover, this index also criticized empirical distribution and theoretical foundation.

Despite its noteworthy drawbacks, the RCA index proposed by Balassa (1965) considered a reliable measure of relative export performance since its inception. Therefore, the RCA index is applied in the study of comparative advantage at the different levels of export countries. Previous pieces of literature in this field cover the study of comparative advantage at the country level, including a comparison between countries, sector level, industry level, and finally, product level. Using RCA, Abbas and Waheed (2017) determined the trade competitiveness of 14 specific industries of Pakistani agriculture and manufacturing sectors. Findings of the study exhibit comparative advantage of Pakistan in cotton, cereal, raw leather, and fruits of the agricultural industry and textile, carpets, sports items, and beverages in manufacturing industries. Nevertheless, this study is limited to only two sectors of the Pakistani economy and without a specific focus of any industries.

On the contrary, rather than focusing on multiple industries and sectors, Vanitha, Kumari, and Singh (2014), in their study of the export potentiality of vegetables in India, focused more narrowly on the specific industries within a sector. The main aim of the study is to find export competitiveness and comparative advantage of selected fresh vegetables in India. The authors prove the competitiveness using a couple of representative tools, including RCA, for a period of ten years from 2000 to 2010. The results of the study confirm that India has an export potentiality in the products of onion, potato, and tomato and comparative advantage in the production of onion and peas. However, this study is selective in finding RCA for specific product lines under the green vegetable industry rather than considering all fresh vegetables. In addition to determining RCA, this study also identified a few obstacles to the export potentiality of the selected products.

Moreover, considering one single industry, Pascucci (2018) explores the competitive position of the coffee roasting industry of Italy in the international market through a multidimensional framework. The author focuses on both competitive performance and potentiality of the Italian coffee roasting industry by several indices where RCA index one of those. The findings of the study show that the coffee roasting industry of Italy lost its competitive performance and potential in the last 50 years of the 21st century because of a lack of innovation. The author considered sixteen years as a study period, which is a little bit higher than other previous studies, which considered ten years to check the pattern of comparative advantage. Moreover, this study not only addresses the specific industry that substantially contributes to the economic earning and development of the country but also outlines how the country can develop the domestic market by nurturing export competitiveness.

In the same fashion of aiming an emerging specific industry, Islam and Siddique (2014) determine the competitiveness and structure of trade flows of the Bangladeshi leather industry with comparison to other selected Asian countries- Pakistan, China, and India. Using the RCA index suggested by Balassa (1965), authors explore the comparative advantage of the two categories of Bangladeshi leather exports - raw hides and skins, and leather and leather products. The study of a period of 10 years from 2004 to 2013 shows that Bangladesh has a relatively high revealed comparative advantage in its export of raw hides and skins only and has no such comparative advantage in the export of leather and leather goods. However, this study also urged for further in-depth investigations in this industry to find and nurture comparative advantage. The authors mention that this study is one of the preliminary studies on Bangladeshi leather export, which broaden the scope of further research in the same and similar industries as the footwear industry, leather clothing, and other leather items.

The discussion mentioned above emphasizes the need for the investigation of revealed comparative advantage of potential sectors, especially for the least developed and developing countries. As Bangladesh is interested in diversifying its export base, measuring comparative advantage in its potential sectors like leather goods, and footwear products would be helpful. Based on the previous studies reviewed so far, it is evident that there is still an opportunity for an in-depth investigation of revealed comparative advantage of the Bangladeshi leather goods industry. Moreover, the footwear products of Bangladesh, another potential industry is still untapped to explore for revealed comparative advantage. Thus, there is a scope for further research in

determining the revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products.

3. Methodology

This research investigates the revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products by analyzing the export performance of these selected industries. Thus, this study adopts a quantitative research approach where export data of the selected industries of the country are examined to conclude. Moreover, to measure the revealed comparative advantage, this study adopts the RCA index proposed by Balassa (1965). RCA index based on the relative export performances of a selected sector measures the competitiveness generated by factor endowment (Abbas & Waheed 2017). Thus, Balassa's RCA index of export competitiveness reflects the comparative advantage of the sector. The RCA index represented as follows,

$$RCA = \frac{\frac{X_{ij}}{X_{Wj}}}{\frac{X_i}{X_w}}$$

Where,

X_{ij} = Export of j th industry by i th country

X_{Wj} = World export of the j th industry

X_i = Total export of the i th country

X_w = Total export of the world

The RCA index consists of value between zero and positive infinity, which would be either greater than unity or less than unity. If the value is more significant than unity, $RCA > 1$ indicates that the country has a comparative advantage on the selected products, and if the value is less than unity, $RCA < 1$ indicates that the nation has a comparative disadvantage on that selected product. Besides, a change in the RCA index over time also indicates the competitive position of the country in that product (Abbas & Waheed 2017). Thus, this study adopts ten years (2008-2017) to consider the shift in the competitive position of selected products from Bangladesh. However, using Balassa's RCA index is not without its limitations. This index indicates the comparative advantage or disadvantage of a country in a selected product but provides no information about the reasons for this advantageous or disadvantageous position (Vanitha, Kumari & Singh 2014).

Besides, data used in this RCA index calculation consists of year-wise export data of both the leather goods and footwear products of Bangladesh and the world. Data collected from the Trade Map. Trade Map is an authentic and reliable source of trade statistics for international business development developed by the International Trade Centre of UNCTAD/WTO (ITC). For the leather goods export, Harmonized System (HS) code 42 and for footwear products, HS code 64 considered in data collection. However, as industry-wise and in total export data of Bangladesh are missing for the years 2014, 2016, and 2017, mirror data from the same source used for the whole period of 2008-2017 for export of Bangladesh in total and selected industries. The export data of all the commodities for all trading nations of the most recent period are still not available. To address this missing data and to ensure the reliability of the data, the most recent year 2018 is excluded from the analysis.

4. Analysis

This section presents the analysis of the data related to the revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. In addition to determining the revealed comparative advantage (RCA) index, this analysis section also comprises data regarding the export value of leather goods and footwear products and their contribution to total export of Bangladesh over ten years from 2008 to 2017. This analysis of export trends using total export value and analysis of the relative contribution of each industry in total export creates a broader scope for policymakers

to develop strategies for export diversification of Bangladesh through leather goods and footwear products.

Table 1: Bangladeshi exports of leather goods, footwear products and total to the world (in thousand USD)

Year	Total export of Bangladesh to the world	Bangladeshi export of Leather goods	Bangladeshi export of Footwear products	Leather export, % of total export	Footwear export, % of total export
2008	17,146,894	17,404	198,734	0.1	1.2
2009	17,606,879	20,869	229,699	0.1	1.3
2010	20,839,764	28,669	282,983	0.1	1.4
2011	27,234,920	38,522	393,337	0.1	1.4
2012	28,040,404	63,328	417,703	0.2	1.5
2013	31,889,977	93,023	560,250	0.3	1.8
2014	34,664,073	144,399	693,870	0.4	2.0
2015	36,340,569	206,683	836,544	0.6	2.3
2016	38,656,935	262,994	930,127	0.7	2.4
2017	40,831,854	280,688	981,260	0.7	2.4

Source: Author's calculation based on Trade map Data, 2019

Table 1 shows the total export of Bangladesh to the world as well as the total export of leather goods and footwear products from 2008 to 2017. Moreover, the contribution of leather goods and footwear products in total national export over the study period is also included in the table. According to table 1, while the total export of leather goods was USD 17,404,000 in 2008, which has increased almost 2.5 times to USD 280,688,000 in most the recent year 2017. On the other hand, the export of footwear products is also increased almost four times, from USD 198,734,000 in 2008 to USD 981,260,000 in 2017. Moreover, the export value of footwear products is higher than that of leather goods in each year of the study period.

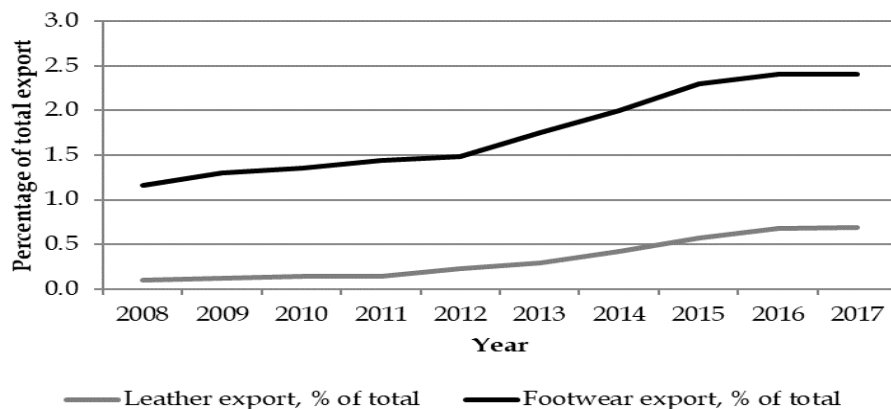
Besides, figure 1 shows the export contribution of leather goods and footwear products to the total export of Bangladesh. According to figure 1, the export contribution of leather goods is lower than 1 percent of total export over ten years. However, the figure explicates that the export contribution of leather goods is increasing gradually over time from 0.1% in 2008 to almost 0.7% in 2017. A similar finding is also evident in the export of footwear products. However, the export contribution of footwear products to the total export of the country is comparatively higher than that of leather goods. In the initial year 2008, the export contribution of footwear products was 1.2%, which over the period increased by more than doubled to 2.4% in 2017.

In addition to analyzing recent export performance, the revealed comparative advantage (RCA) index is also calculated to find the export competitiveness of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. Table 2 demonstrates the RCA index for both leather goods and footwear products of Bangladesh for ten years starting from 2008. According to Balassa (1965), a country has a comparative advantage in an industry when the RCA index is more significant than unity. According to this measure, Bangladesh has revealed comparative advantage in both leather goods and footwear products in most the recent year 2017.

However, considering the last ten years, in the case of leather goods, Bangladesh has a comparative advantage since 2014 only, before that it had no comparative advantage in its leather goods. On the contrary, Bangladesh has a comparative advantage in footwear products over the last ten years as the RCA index is higher than unity in each of the years of the period of 2008-2017. This trend of revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products for the

period of 2008 to 2017 is depicted in figure 2. The trend of revealed comparative advantage over this period shows the pattern and structure of the comparative advantage.

Figure 1: Contribution of leather goods & footwear products to total export of Bangladesh



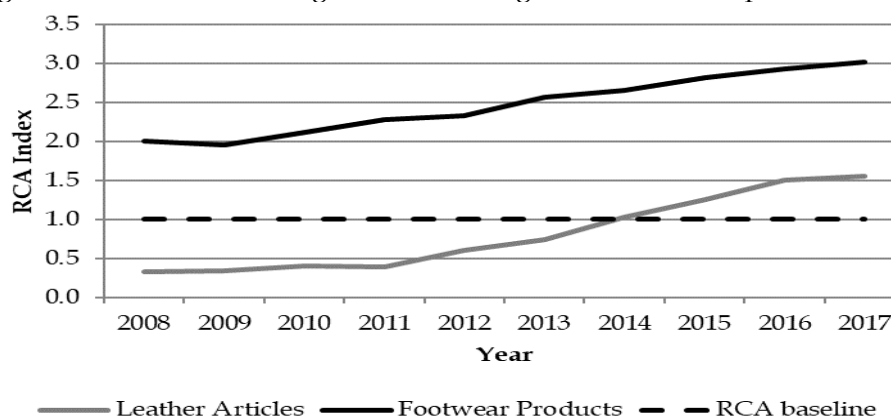
Source: Author’s calculation based on Trade map Data, 2019

Table 2: RCA index of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products

Year	RCA Leather	RCA Footwear
2008	0.3	2.0
2009	0.3	2.0
2010	0.4	2.1
2011	0.4	2.3
2012	0.6	2.3
2013	0.7	2.6
2014	1.0	2.7
2015	1.3	2.8
2016	1.5	2.9
2017	1.6	3.0

Source: Author’s calculation based on Trade map Data, 2019

Figure 2: RCA index of Bangladeshi leather goods & footwear products throughout 2008-2017



Source: Author’s calculation based on Trade map Data, 2019

Figure 2 portrays that, RCA index of both leather goods and footwear products have risen progressively over the years. In the case of leather goods, the RCA index was below unity, only 0.3 in 2008, which touched the threshold point in 2014 and increased to 1.6 in most the recent year 2017. On the other hand, the RCA index of footwear products was 2.0 in 2008 and gradually increased to 3.0 in most the recent year 2017 with the only exception in the year 2009 when it decreased from the previous year. Besides, figure 2 shows that Bangladesh holds a revealed comparative advantage in its export of footwear product in each year of the period of 2008-2017, while it has a revealed comparative advantage in the export of leather goods since 2014 only.

5. Discussion

Bangladesh mainly depends on its ready-made garments industry for its export earnings, which account for more than two-thirds of the total export (Central Intelligence Agency, 2019). Determining comparative advantage on other industries and consequently developing those would help the country to achieve export diversification and further economic development. Thus, this study focused on measuring the revealed comparative advantage of two potential industries of Bangladesh- leather goods and footwear products for a period of 10 years from 2008 to 2017. Moreover, the contribution of these industries on the total export of the country is also evaluated to determine the overall picture of export potentiality. The findings of these analyses form a basis for policymakers to develop strategies for potential export diversification.

The RCA index calculated in this study reveals that Bangladesh has a revealed comparative advantage in both of its leather goods and footwear products in the most recent periods as the RCA index has a value of more than unity. Thus, it rejects the null hypothesis that Bangladesh has no revealed comparative advantage in its leather goods and footwear products. Bangladesh is having a comparative advantage in its leather goods since 2014 only, whereas comparative advantage is evident in all the study periods for footwear products. Moreover, a trend line depicted on the RCA index of both industries shows a gradual upward trend of RCA values, which implies a favorable increasing position of comparative advantage over time. Though both industries show a definite increasing trend in its comparative advantage, footwear industries enjoy a more advantageous position than that of leather goods in each year of the study periods. Moreover, in comparison with leather goods, footwear products have a more stable gradual increasing trend in the comparative advantage position.

These findings significantly contribute to the existing literature of revealed comparative advantage of the Bangladeshi leather industry. Islam and Siddique (2014) concluded that Bangladesh had no revealed comparative advantage of leather and leather goods. The country is bestowed with only comparative advantage on raw hides and skins of leather, which largely depends on the traditional position of Bangladesh in raw hides and skins processing and exporting. Moreover, Islam and Siddique (2014) considered the study period from 2004 to 2013 and concluded that until that period, Bangladesh had no RCA in leather goods. This current study significantly reduces this gap in the literature by extending the study period to the most recent years and find that Bangladesh had achieved RCA on leather goods in 2014, and since that period, the degree of RCA is increasing. Besides, this study also shed some light in the literature of comparative advantage of Bangladeshi footwear products as to the best of researcher's knowledge there is no such study had initiated so far.

In addition to the RCA index, the export contribution of both the leather goods and footwear products to the total exports of Bangladesh also calculated in this study. Leather goods have a very insignificant contribution to the total export of Bangladesh as the contribution is less than 1% of the total export. In the study period of 10 years, the contribution of leather goods is even less than 0.5% until 2014, and then it gradually increased to almost 0.7% in the most recent year in 2017. On the other hand, footwear products show a similar pattern of export contribution; however, it contributes more than the leather goods in each year of the study period. While the export contribution of

footwear products was only 1.2% in 2007, it increased to 2% in 2014 and then gradually increased further to 2.4% in most the recent year of 2017.

In comparison with footwear products, leather goods show promising growth in the contribution of total export in Bangladesh as it increased almost seven times over the last ten years whereas footwear products reached only more than double. These findings clearly articulate the significance of footwear products in the total trade of Bangladesh. The footwear product is one of the most promising sectors that contributes to the national trade after ready-made garments and knitwear products. Therefore, footwear products require specific attention from the policymakers to capitalize on its increasing potentiality in the national economy. Besides, the recent growth in exporting and RCA justify the inclusion of leather goods in the potential sectors determined by the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (2019). Though the recent contributions of leather goods are minimal compare to total trade, increasing trend rationalizes the need for careful attention of policymakers for further development of this potential sector.

Therefore, the findings of this study both in the position on revealed comparative advantage and the contribution to the total export of the country collectively create a broader scope for policymakers to develop strategies to achieve export diversification of Bangladesh. The findings of this study reveal that the advantageous position of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products are gradually strengthening over time. Though export contributions of these two industries are not very high compare to the total export of the country, detailed planning to capitalize on the current position of comparative advantage may change the position in the future. As the export contribution of these two industries is growing progressively, Bangladesh may develop strategies to expand export markets and increase its market share in the global market. Thus, export diversification can be facilitated by concentrating on both leather goods and footwear products.

6. Conclusion

Bangladesh is looking forward to diversifying its export base through selected potential sectors. Leather goods and footwear products are two listed in this category. These two industries are traditionally seemed potential for Bangladeshi economy because of supply of good quality raw materials and abundant, low-cost labor. Based on this fact, this study is initiated to determine the revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. Consequently, the main research question of the study developed as to whether Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products have revealed comparative advantages. Furthermore, to answer this question, this study hypothesized that Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products have no export competitiveness. Besides, the findings of this study are significant for the policymakers to set strategies for export diversification through leather goods and footwear products if findings show any revealed comparative advantage of Bangladesh in these industries.

One of the most reliable measures of relative export performance, the RCA index proposed by Balassa (1965), is considered in this research to measure the revealed comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. This study also includes the export performance and pattern of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. Significant findings show that Bangladesh has revealed comparative advantage in both of its leather goods and footwear products in the most recent periods as the RCA index has a value of more than unity. Thus, the null hypothesis of the study that Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products have no export competitiveness has been rejected. Moreover, the RCA index of both industries shows a gradual upward trend of RCA values, which implies a favorable increasing position of comparative advantage over time. In comparison with leather articles, footwear products have a more stable gradual increasing trend in the comparative advantage position.

This study has important implications for at least three critical areas. First, it reduces the existing gap in the literature regarding the comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products. While this study is first in its kind in the footwear products of Bangladesh, it

significantly depicts the comparative advantage position of Bangladesh in leather goods after 2013. Second, this study provides important implications for the policymakers of the country. Considering a need for export diversification policy in Bangladesh, this study depicts the current position of leather goods and footwear products of Bangladesh in export contribution and RCA, which policymakers should consider in developing further trade policy. Export promotion policies, supportive programs, and trade liberalization in the inputs for these sectors are expected to contribute further expansion of these two sectors. Finally, this study might also be useful for firm-level management and decision making in related sectors.

However, this study also has few specific limitations. The RCA index only shows the revealed comparative advantage or disadvantage of a country in selected industries but provides no information about the reasons behind that. Thus, this study only broadens the opportunity for policymakers to develop strategies that diversify the export base of Bangladesh but have no explanations behind such a trend. Besides, using only a two-digit level of HS code, this study has only a general overview of leather goods and footwear products rather than a more intensive margin of export.

Consequently, this study opens the scope for further research that would address the issues in more detail. Future research may take place to find the reasons behind the current comparative advantage of Bangladeshi leather goods and footwear products, to compare the comparative advantage position of Bangladesh with its major competing countries in leather goods and footwear products, to determine the bilateral trade position of Bangladesh with leading importers of leather goods and footwear products in the world. Moreover, there are also scopes for similar research in other potential sectors of Bangladesh to find further scope for export diversification.

References

- Abbas, S & Waheed, A 2017, 'Trade Competitiveness of Pakistan: evidence from the revealed comparative advantage approach', *Competitiveness Review*, vol. 27, no. 5, pp. 462-475.
- Balassa, B 1965, 'Trade liberalisation and revealed comparative advantage', *The Manchester School*, vol. 33, no. 2, pp. 99-123.
- Bangladesh Investment Development Authority 2019, Potential Sectors: Leather and Leather Goods Sub sectors, Bangladesh Investment Development Authority, viewed 16 April 2019, <http://bida.gov.bd/?page_id=917>
- Central Intelligence Agency 2019, *Bangladesh: In the World Factbook*, Central Intelligence Agency, viewed 16 April 2019, <<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/bg.html>>
- Heckscher, E 1919, 'The effect of foreign trade on the distribution of income', *Ekonomisk Tidskrift*, vol. 21, pp. 497-512. Translated as chapter 13 in American Economic Association, *Readings in the Theory of International Trade*, Philadelphia: Blakiston, 1949, 272-300.
- Islam, S & Siddique, PJ 2014, 'Revealed Comparative Advantage of Bangladeshi Leather Industry with Selected Asian Economies', *IOSR Journal of Business and Management (IOSR-JBM)*, vol. 16, no. 12 (II), pp. 44-51.
- Ohlin, B 1952, *Interregional and International Trade: Revised Edition*, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA.
- Pascucci, F 2018, 'The export competitiveness of Italian coffee roasting industry', *British Food Journal*, vol. 120, no. 7, pp. 1529-1546.
- Vanitha, SM, Kumari, G & Singh, R 2014, 'Export Competitiveness of Fresh Vegetables in India', *International Journal of Vegetable Science*, vol. 20, pp. 227-234.
- World Bank 2019, *Country Profile: Bangladesh*, World Bank, viewed 16 April 2019, <<https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/bangladesh/overview>>