

TRADE STATISTICS IN ASIA

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I. Industrial Structures in Asian Countries and Their Dependence on Trade

By Asian countries we mean here countries between the Republic of Korea in the east and Pakistan in the west. In a general way we regard these countries as falling under one and the same category. However, each country has characteristics of its own so that certain reservations are necessary in order to treat these countries as a whole. It can be said that many of them are situated near the equator, or in the tropical or subtropical areas north of it, and that the peoples inhabiting these countries are neither Caucasians nor Negroes. Further, many of them were colonies of Western countries from the 18th century or earlier and were liberated and became independent after World War II. Viewed from the standpoint of industrial structure, they were mostly monocultural, sending their products to the United States, European countries, and Japan and depending on imports for the supply of their foodstuffs, daily necessities and machinery. However, after World War II and the attainment of independence, these countries have followed a national policy of industrialization and of increasing self-sufficiency in the supply of industrial products. This is the result of increased consciousness of independence and the major changes that have been wrought since the termination of the last World War. These are the common features that characterize almost all these countries.

At the same time, however, we must not lose sight of the following points:

1. These countries are inhabited by many different races;
2. Many different religions such as Buddhism, Mahometanism, Christianity are practised in these countries, which have adopted some as national religions;
3. Their former colonial rulers were Britain, France, the United States, and the Netherlands. The differences arising from this relationship are manifested in continuing differences in the fields of politics, economy, culture, education and so on of these countries;
4. They are monocultural, but products differ widely depending on the country.

We should note the fact that politically, some of these countries belong to the Southeast Asian Treaty Organization (SEATO) and others are slightly leftist while many have common consciousness as members of the Afro-Asian group of neutralist nations. On the other hand, economically, there are hardly any common interests which they share with intra-area economic exchange among them being extremely limited with respect to both goods and capital. What little economic exchange there is, is tending to decline due to their vigorous efforts to

Table. 1 SHARES OF EACH AREA IN EXPORT

Export from or Import to	Export to or Import from	TOTAL VALUE (million US \$)		US & Canada		W. Europe		Asia	
		Export	Import	EX	IM	EX	IM	EX	IM
1. Rep. of Korea	1959	19	283	12	53	12	23	73	20
	1960	32	287	12	43	14	22	76	29
2. Philippines	59	530	509	55	48	17	18	25	30
	60	538	563	50	48	20	14	27	32
3. Viet Nam	59	75	225	9	26	57	35	20	35
	60	86	240	5	26	52	39	34	34
4. Cambodia	59	57	66	24	7	34	36	35	52
	60	70	95	11	9	37	36	39	48
5. Thailand	59	359	419	25	17	9	31	59	49
	60	404	444	14	18	14	32	63	47
6. Malaya	59	808	568	13	3	30	33	42	55
	60	874	478	12	3	33	32	41	58
7. Sarawak	59	174	149	5	2	18	10	59	86
	60	159	145	0	2	13	14	68	82
8. Indonesia	59	872	459	16	16	33	30	42	44
	60	840	574	23	17	22	29	45	49
9. Burma	59	223	223	1	5	16	33	71	53
	60	222	258	0	4	18	30	72	50
10. Ceylon	59	355	421	15	8	41	34	11	37
	60	373	411	14	9	40	14	14	40
11. Pakistan	59	320	353	11	29	43	41	25	19
	60	392	651	9	27	38	42	31	18
Sub-Total 1~11	59	3,794	3,674	20	21	28	29	38	42
	60	3,979	4,147	18	21	27	28	45	41
12. Hongkong	59	629	919	19	11	19	22	39	53
	60	744	1,078	20	14	21	22	36	52
13. Singapore	59	900	1,201	12	4	27	16	43	73
	60	911	1,241	10	4	27	17	41	70
14. India	59	1,308	1,864	19	25	38	43	18	12
	60	1,332	2,124	19	25	38	42	17	13
Total excluding 1~14 & Japan	59	6,670	7,658	18	18	29	30	34	41
	60	6,967	8,589	18	19	29	28	38	39
Japan	59	3,457	3,600	34	35	10	10	29	22
	60	4,055	4,492	30	39	12	9	32	21
Grand Total	59	10,137	11,258	24	23	23	24	33	35
	60	11,021	12,081	22	27	22	24	36	36

Source: Direction of International Trade, U.N.

Remarks: 1. Hongkong etc. means Hongkong, China Mainland, Singapore and India.

AND IMPORT OF ASIAN COUNTRIES

Japan (%)		Hongkong, etc.		Other Asia		Other Areas		Remarks (*)
EX	IM	EX	IM	EX	IM	EX	IM	
66	11	6	1	1	9	4	5	
65	20	10	1	1	9	0	6	
22	18	0	1	3	*12	3	4	
22	23	5	2	3	7	3	6	
3	21	13	3	4	11	15	4	
3	22	15	1	*17	10	9	2	export to Indonesia (8)
4	14	24	33	6	6	7	5	
7	17	26	24	7	7	13	7	
12	25	23	16	*24	8	7	3	
18	26	22	15	*21	6	9	4	export to Taiwan (9) and Malaya (14)
13	7	26	20	3	*28	15	9	
13	6	25	19	3	*33	14	7	import from Thailand (16) and Indonesia (17)
14	2	40	11	5	*73	18	2	
21	3	44	19	4	*63	8	2	import from North Borneo (65)
4	15	30	21	8	8	9	10	
4	16	29	17	11	*15	10	6	export to Malaya (7) and import from Burma (10)
3	8	8	20	1	9	33	21	
3	8	10	22	2	9	33	38	export of rice to Indonesia (11) and Ceylon (12)
8	6	11	7	6	6	21	12	
7	9	19	5	5	5	22	13	
10	14	19	14	9	14	14	8	
12	16	24	12	10	13	10	10	
4	23	33	24	*45	6	12	10	
5	24	23	21	*44	8	10	16	
6	15	14	23	18	16	23	14	
5	15	15	22	16	14	23	13	
7	7	8	7	27	59	13	8	
6	8	8	7	27	54	22	9	
6	5	3	3	10	5	25	20	
5	5	2	2	9	6	26	20	
8	10	14	11	12	19	18	11	
9	12	16	9	12	18	16	13	
—	—	8	4	21	18	27	33	
—	—	8	3	24	18	24	31	
5	7	13	9	15	19	21	18	
6	9	13	8	17	19	19	13	

2. Other Asia means Asian areas east of Pakistan, excluding Japan, Hongkong, etc.

3. Other Areas means areas other than U.S., Canada, Western Europe and Asia.

be economically independent and to increase self-sufficiency. This is a tendency contrary to the endeavours of countries with similar industrial structures—like those of the European Economic Community—to promote economic integration and to form a common market. Each of these Asian countries is developing economic relations more actively with Japan or Western countries than with other countries of the group.

Rapid changes have taken place in the economic structure of these countries after political independence. Economic independence does not always follow political independence. On the contrary, some countries experienced a sharp decline in production, if temporary, and met with considerable difficulties following the withdrawal by the former rulers of their capital, technical skills and company organizations. In addition, former colonies suffered a still greater setback owing to a major change in the industrial structure of the postwar world. Increased production of foodstuffs in Japan and other importers dealt a heavy blow to rice-producing countries such as Thailand and Burma, while the development of synthetics has thrown the countries in areas which produce rubber (Indonesia, Malaya, Ceylon, etc.) and cotton (India and Pakistan) into chronic depression. The Suez Canal crisis of 1956 brought a temporary boom to these countries, but after that the prices of the major products of Asian countries continued on disappointingly low levels. As a result, almost all these countries suffered from a foreign currency gap and currency inflation, owing to increased demand for imports for domestic construction projects and the reduced capacity to earn foreign currency through exports.

Thus, many of the Asian countries, struggling to achieve economic independence after winning political independence, are still plagued by a number of economic difficulties stemming from the change in the industrial structure of the world.

As mentioned above, the volume of trade between Asian countries is extremely limited except for their trade with such industrialized countries as Japan and India and with transit trade ports such as Hongkong and Singapore. This is quite natural because of their traditional trade structure based on the export of primary products and the import of industrial products. Intra-area trade among these countries is certain to be reduced further since Indonesia, which imports rice from Thailand and Burma, is stepping up efforts to turn sugar cane fields into paddy-fields and since India is trying to reduce jute imports from Pakistan by developing its own jute-growing industry.

Thus, so far as their trade is concerned, the countries in this area depend to a large extent on countries outside it, chiefly, Japan, the United States, and European countries. Table 1 shows the trade relations of these Asian countries with those outside the area. In some countries, import from extra-area countries has switched from consumer to capital goods, and self-sufficiency has been increased in the supply of textiles, cement, etc., as a result of the development of domestic industry. A few of them, Pakistan in particular, which were formerly importers of textiles, have become exporters. Small in area as it is, Hongkong has developed from a mere transit port into an industrial colony on the basis of cheap labour resulting from its excessively inflated population. It now ex-

ports textiles, sundry goods and even transistor radios (assembled from Japanese-made parts) to the United States and European countries.

This change in the trade structure is rapidly transforming the demand, supply and flow conditions of commodities within the area. It is keenly felt that the development of the advanced industrial countries of the world is impossible without a balanced economic growth of each and every region of the world, in spite of the growing mutual economic exchange or volume of trade among the regions of the world due to the increased speed and size of the means of transportation.

In order to understand the problems of world economy properly, it is essential to obtain an unbiased picture of the still undeveloped but rapidly changing economies of these Asian countries. During the past four years since its establishment, the Institute of Asian Economic Affairs has tackled all the economic problems of Asia. But in studying these economies from a quantitative standpoint, we cannot help feeling the extreme paucity of relevant data. Together with five other colleagues,¹ I was assigned by the Institute to study trade statistics concerning the Asian region and have been engaged in collecting, sifting and analyzing statistical data for three years.

Statistical data is generally scarce but trade statistics, chiefly customs clearance statistics, are about the only materials available in these countries. Since trade statistics are essential for administrative purposes, no country fails to compile and publish them, though they vary in accuracy. Inasmuch as Asian countries depend on trade more than other countries, there is a greater possibility that their economies may be understood clearly by studying their trade statistics than is true in the case of the economies of advanced countries. Further, by analyzing these statistics we can understand the flow structure of commodities within the region and between these countries and those outside the region.

In studying this problem, however, one is surprised at an unexpectedly large number of problems that must be grappled with. The case would be different if statistics were compiled on common criteria such as those employed for U.N. or IMF statistics. In Asian countries, very few statistical reports are compiled on the basis of such criteria. Under these circumstances, one is compelled to rely on original statistical data available in these countries. But in some countries, such data is not published, and even when it is available, the terminology used, classification of items, division of areas, quantitative units, currency units, etc. differ. The meaning of terms used varies. If we were to utilize these statistics without taking this into consideration, we would make unexpected mistakes. In other words, it is vital to understand and evaluate economic data correctly in order to understand the economies of Asian countries. It is desirable to present this statistical data in forms easily understandable to the ordinary public.

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With this purpose in view, in 1959 we began to examine closely the trade statistics of these countries and to re-compile them according to unified standards for the benefit of the Government, scholars, and business circles.

II. Trade Statistics of Asian Countries

In order to understand the actual conditions of trade, it is needed to realize the background to the compilation of trade statistics. It is not the purpose of the present writer to deal with the methodology of statistics, so that the question of whether the statistics compiled in such and such a country are methodologically correct or not is left aside. We have, on the other hand, tried to make clear the differences between various countries in the definitions of terminologies, classification, technical terms, etc. used and, if possible, to supplement and unify them in order to prevent possible mistakes that may be committed in utilizing them, with the aim of grasping the actual conditions of the intra-area flow of commodities.

Generally speaking, most people who utilize statistics, pay little attention to the special terms and definitions used. In most cases, it is practically speaking all right for us to interpret them in a generally accepted sense. However, in some cases light machinery, such as refrigerators and cameras, is included in the classification called "machinery" and in other cases these light machines are included in the category of "sundry goods." In Japan, goods destined for Thailand via Hongkong are exports to Thailand, but in Thailand purchases from Japan through Hongkong are classified as imports from Hongkong. Figures given for Singapore's rubber imports from Indonesia are double Indonesia's exports to Singapore. So long as we examine figures from one and the same source, we do not doubt them. But as soon as we examine figures from different sources, we encounter discrepancies. In such cases it is necessary to examine the sources themselves.

Thus, we studied the 15 countries¹ of Asia under the following headings:

1. Kinds of statistics

Availability of statistics by item, by region, by commodity and destination, by destination and commodity; the amount of these statistics if available ;

2. Kinds of trade

Trade statistics do not always cover all the goods that enter a given country or are shipped from it. We can take it for granted that all the goods moved in private trade are entered in such statistics, but in some countries government transaction goods—particularly defence goods—are excluded from the official statistics. In other countries, foreign aid or reparations goods are given special treatment. In some countries these goods are classified as such and figures on them are listed separately, while in others the definitions of terms used are not clear and consequently the scope of articles covered by them are unknown.

¹ Pakistan, Ceylon, the Ryukyu Islands, the Republic of Korea, Taiwan, the Philippines, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Malaya, Singapore, Indonesia, Burma, and India.

3. Forms of circulation of goods

There are some cases in which imported goods are not immediately related to the economic activities of the country.

By "transit" is meant the movement of goods into countries without access to the sea through ports in neighbouring countries. For instance, the movement of goods through Thailand into Laos, through India into Nepal and Bhutan, is an example. If transit trade is not distinguished from ordinary trade, the flow channels of trade goods will not be clear.

Further, cargoes may be trans-shipped from one vessel to another in the port. Depending on trade procedures in the countries concerned, transit trade can be conducted in some cases merely by changing entries in the bill of lading in a port on the way to the destination. Cargo trans-shipment and the re-writing of the bill of lading are forms of transit trade. If these forms of trade are mixed with ordinary trade, it is extremely difficult to see the actual pattern of trade.

The practice of export from and import into bonded warehouses is fairly widespread in Asia. Imported goods kept in the bonded warehouse may be shipped abroad without being formally imported in the country concerned or may be re-exported after being processed in the bonded area. These goods should be clearly distinguished from others if a correct picture of trade is to be obtained.

Re-export and re-import also pose a problem. Export from the bonded area is a kind of re-export, and it also sometimes happens that goods that are imported after going through customs formalities are exported again. Further, it happens, though rarely, that goods that were exported are imported into the same country. In most cases, these are goods returned by importers with claims. It is very difficult to define "re-export." Souvenir goods bought in Hongkong are mostly re-exports, but it is an extremely difficult job to obtain correct figures on them.

It is desirable that goods are classified according to the above-mentioned forms of trade at the time of their passing customs entry.

4. Goods imported without requiring foreign exchange

It is sometimes very difficult to ascertain whether goods are imported without requiring foreign exchange or not. It is more difficult to know to what form of trade they belong. But it is a very important matter of trade administration to clarify these points concerning every shipment.

5. Special goods

Postal packages, travellers' personal effects, diplomatic baggages, gold and silver coins, firearms, supplies to ocean-going ships, etc. are different in nature from ordinary trade goods. These goods also pose a problem, though not so important, as their quantities are naturally limited.

So far we have dealt with the nature of trade goods. In the following section we will discuss various problems that are encountered in comparing trade statistics of one country with those of another. Sometimes such a case happens that there is a considerable difference between, for instance, Hongkong's export to Thailand

during a given month of a given year and Thailand's import from Hongkong during the same month. It is necessary to examine how and why such a difference occurs.

6. Closing date of statistics

Export or import for June or for 1960 does not always mean the same thing in different countries so far as the period covered is concerned. "Imports for June" may refer to goods that went through customs formalities between June 1 and 30, goods on which the statistical data were made available to the Government's statistics agency, or goods on which declarations were made by exporters or importers during the same period. Further, as for the period, the closing date is not always set on the last day of the month. It may be set on the 20th or the 25th day of the month. When there is a difference in trade figures between two countries, it is necessary to see if it is due to differences in the compilation methods of statistics, taking into consideration also the fact that it may be caused by the number of days required for the movement of cargoes between them.

7. Parties involved in importing and exporting

In many cases it is unexpectedly difficult to determine who are the real parties involved in importing and exporting. Inasmuch as controls are placed on trade in many countries, trade transactions are often conducted in extremely complex forms. When a commodity is sent from country A to country B, it happens that in the case of an import license not being granted directly by B a letter of credit is opened by B to C, and then a letter of credit is opened by C to A. Further, in the case of a bill of lading, it may be first addressed by A to C, and rewritten on the way so that it may be sent to B. It is customary in many countries to enter in export and import declarations the country from which the goods were originally shipped and the last country to which the goods are destined, hence, sometimes a problem occurs in connection with certificates of origin. In some countries, countries to which the goods are immediately sent are defined as importers, and the last countries from which the goods are sent as exporters. In others, there are no definitions on these matters, and reports by trading firms are accepted. For instance, goods exported from Japan to Thailand via Hongkong are declared by Japan to be exports to Thailand but declared by Thailand to be imports from Hongkong.

8. Quantitative units

The metric system is not universal. On the contrary, the yard and pound system is more convenient in countries which have had close economic and political relations with Britain. While it is true that one or the other of these two systems is used in Asian countries, there is the additional complication that there are many kinds of tons and gallons. During the course of our joint study, we experienced difficulties in differentiating one type of unit from another.

Quantitative units were one of the major problems we had to overcome, as it was absolutely necessary for us to use a unit system common to these countries

in order to obtain a clear picture of the flow structure of a particular article within the region.

9. Currency units

International currency units, the dollar or the pound, are used in very few of the countries for statistical purposes. In most countries import and export values are expressed in local currency units. Not only are their national currency units unfamiliar to foreigners but the figures must be re-computed into international units. Further, figures in national currency units are not comparable, hampering the comparative study of the trade of different countries. It is quite natural for an independent country to express its trade amounts in its own currency unit. It would be unreasonable to complain about this, the more so if we take into consideration the fact that the U.S. dollar and the British pound sterling have been used for international settlement merely customarily and that their values are in no way stabilized. However, it is also true that for many people in different countries of the world it takes more time to understand values expressed in units other than the currency units of their own countries or the U.S. dollar or the pound sterling. It would not be altogether unreasonable to wish to see one and the same currency unit used in the statistics of various countries.

10. Criteria for figuring out export and import values

It is a customary practice to value exports on the FOB basis and imports on the CIF basis. But in Japanese foreign exchange statistics, both exports and imports are valued on an FOB, C & F, CIF or other bases according to the actual form of trade transaction, while in the Philippines both exports and imports are listed on the FOB basis as in the United States.

11. Classification of commodities

Many countries adopt the SITC (Standard International Trade Classifications) system, but the number of digits differs from country to country, ranging from three to nine digit figures. Further, figures after the sixth digit represent different classifications according to countries. Systems other than the SITC are employed in several countries. In dealing with statistical figures of these countries, questions arise in connection with their conversion into the SITC or the Brussels nomenclature.

For reference, here is an example of the SITC classification system.

First digit:	classification according to raw materials used
Second digit:	base metals
Third digit:	Iron and steel plates
Seventh digit:	Galvanized steel sheets

In some countries, cotton cloths are classified into grey, bleached and dyed cloths, and also according to widths, such as 36 inches, 48 inches, but a total figure on cotton cloths is not available.

12. Classification by areas

In some cases, statistical figures are completely classified according to countries, but in others minor countries are grouped under "other countries." "Other countries" poses a trouble in compiling a trade matrix, but such a grouping would be more or less unavoidable.

It is necessary to grasp the implications of the above-mentioned problems in order to understand and evaluate trade statistics and to re-compile these statistics in the way that will be explained in the following chapter. Given in Table 2 is general information concerning statistical data obtainable in the Asian countries.

III. Re-Compilation of Trade Statistics of Asian Countries

So far we have seen the actual conditions of trade statistics compiled in Asian countries. Then, let us go a step further and tackle the question of how to utilize these statistical data, though it is most desirable to examine original statistics if occasion demands. But the problem is how to obtain data regularly or when necessary. It is not data of a kind that may easily be obtained at a library in Japan. In the case of U.N. statistics, regrettably, only export and import figures by countries are available from the U.N. publication, *Direction of International Trade*, so far as Asian countries are concerned. Further, the *Commodity Year Book* provides us with only "by-commodity" figures for each country. For the compilation of the *Commodity Trade Statistics*, statistical data are obtainable only from Japan and Malaya, so far as Asian countries are concerned. These are the only sources that provide commodity-by-country materials according to the SITC three-digit classification.

Trade statistics are necessary for Government agencies to conduct trade talks or to work out trade plans, for trading and industrial firms to make commercial transactions, and for scholars to study trade and economic conditions. The degree of accuracy and classification methods may differ according to different purposes. If data that meets these purposes is readily available, such data would be extremely useful.

Therefore, we started work on compiling simpler data in the first stage and fully accurate statistical data in the second stage of our project.

The results of our first stage work are already available as *Asian Trade Statistics 1956-1958* and *Ajia Shokoku Bōeki Shihyō* (The Index of International Trade in Asian Countries). Both are based on statistical data available from U.N. publications. The former is a trade matrix by commodity in SITC three digits between 22 industrial countries and 14 Asian countries. The figures are compiled from the *Commodity Trade Statistics* which is based on statistical reports by the 22 countries concerned.¹ This 503-page statistical publication covers 135 export items and 146 import items of Asia. Further, in this work, exports are valued on the CIF basis and imports on the FOB basis at the time of cus-

¹ U.S.A., Canada, Belgium-Luxemburg, France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Ireland, Norway, Portugal, Australia, Turkey, Malaya & Singapore, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K., Yugoslavia, and Japan.

toms clearance into the partner country. Though we have used unusual methods, we feel that our work provides general information on the flow of the main commodities in the Asian region.

Ajia Shokoku Bōeki Shihyō is intended to present chronologically the movements of trade of the Asian countries. Though no detailed figures by countries or by commodities are given, yearly figures after the start of 1948 and monthly and quarterly figures after January of 1959 on the trade of each major country are available for each major item. In addition, figures on the foreign currency positions of each country, export and import price indices, gold and foreign exchange holdings, exchange rates, etc. are given.

It should be borne in mind that the purpose of these publications was to meet the urgent demand for statistical information on Asian countries. Our ultimate aim is to provide the most accurate statistical information on Asian countries in the shortest period of time, in the most useful form. Already in Europe, Latin America, Africa, and other regions, various international organizations such as the ECE, ECLA, and ECA, are engaged in the work of compiling statistical data of different countries from a unified standpoint. Unfortunately, such a project has not yet been started in the Asian region. We are now making preparations for re-compiling Asian statistical data in cooperation with ECAFE. For this purpose, we have already contacted this organization on several occasions.

We aim to use the services of an electronic computer that memorizes all the statistical figures accurately and to provide all possible information for inquirers at any time in any form desired. Such a computer is capable of converting figures according to a common classification method, region-wise division, quantitative units, and currency units and of processing data according to these common criteria.

The computer will be able to answer, for instance, an inquirer who wants information on Thailand's import of cotton cloths during 1960 from each or all Western countries, or a person who wants to know Thailand's import from Japan and Hongkong of broad width, dyed cotton cloths during the April-June period of 1960. Since this machine can memorize the most detailed figures available, it can compute the necessary figures in a matter of a few seconds and furnish the required information readily.

A plan is also under way to classify collected data and publish the results in book form. Shown in Table 3 are a part of the statistical data on Thailand for 1959. A book containing such statistical information can be utilized by the reader according to his purpose.

We are aware that a lot of problems are involved in our plan. The first and foremost concerns the speedy collection of original statistical data. This can be achieved only with the cooperation of the organs concerned in the Asian countries. We are hopeful that this can be done successfully with the cooperation of the ECAFE secretariat, which favours our plan. The favourable and understanding attitude of statisticians in the countries concerned will be appreciated. Needless to say, the results of our work will be made available to them upon

request.

The second problem concerns the technical aspects of the work. We examined the kinds of statistical data and materials available in various countries, as explained in Chapter II. It goes without saying that it is not proper for us to change FOB-basis figures into CIF-basis figures and that it is practically impossible to trace the goods back to the country from which they were originally shipped when only the country from which they were directly sent, is known. Since such adjustments are impossible, it is necessary to warn users of our statistical data and make necessary explanations on these matters. The adoption of common units and unified methods in classification will not only be convenient to users but also enable us to compile flow matrixes according to commodities or regions.

But as soon as we started work on classifying data for the purpose of re-compilation, we became aware of the multiplicity of problems involved. For instance:

1. It is extremely difficult to change commodity classifications other than the SITC system into a unified system. Further, the same SITC system is not identical in different countries, with some modifications made to suit the conditions particular to individual countries. As a result, the same classification number does not always mean the same thing in different countries.

2. As for regional classification, the content of "other countries" is not clear, as pointed out earlier in this article. Further, the existing regional classification system is of no use today when new independent countries are born one after another in Africa and other regions. The classification system must be revised each time a new country comes into being. But a problem arises as it usually takes some time for a new country to be listed separately in the statistical tables of some countries.

3. Quantitative units are to be unified according to the metric system. The yard and pound system does not pose such a serious problem, but conversion rates for other units are not easily known. Consequently, to re-compile trade statistics according to unified criteria—statistics on commodities according to the SITC system, statistics by countries in the same classification system, quantities in the metric system, and values in U.S. dollars—is not an easy task at all, but the need for it is greater than the difficulties involved. We have already finished punching cards for 1959 figures for use on the electronic computer and are about to start work on 1960 figures. We hope to publish part of the collected data by the beginning of 1963. Further, statistical data prepared for use on the computing machine will be processed properly for the benefit of inquirers according to their specific needs. It is hoped that various organs concerned in Asian countries will extend cooperation to us in helping us obtain the necessary data, as the collected and processed materials will bring no small benefit to these countries.

	Taiwan	Hongkong	Philippines	Vietnam	Cambodia	
1. Year	1959	1958~59	1956	1956	1955	
Kinds of statistics	2. by commodity	available	available	not available	available	
	3. by country	"	"	available	"	
	4. by country and commodity	"	"	"	"	
	5. by commodity and country	not available			not available	
	6. amount of statistics (items)	abt. 7,000	30,000	16,854	14,320	9,531
	Kinds of trade	7. private trade	included	included	included	included
8. government trade		"	"	"	not included	
9. security (defense) goods		"	not included	"	"	
10. foreign aid goods		separately shown	"	included	included (excluding ICA)	"
11. reparations goods		none	none	not included	not settled	"
Re-export, re-import, etc.	12. transit trade	included	not included	not included	not included	
	13. bonded warehouse trade	not included	included	included	spec. shown	
	14. transshipment	"	not included	not included	not included	
	15. re-export, re-import	included	separately shown	included	included	
16. trade without requiring foreign exchange	included	included	included	included	included	
Kinds of cargo	17. postal packages	included	included	Central Bank not included	included	
	18. personal effects	not included	not included	Statistics B. sep. shown	not included	
	19. diplomatic cargoes	"	"	"	"	
	20. gold, silver, money	spec. shown	included	included (gold excluded)	"	
	21. firearms, ammunition	included	not included	included	"	
	22. ship supplies	spec. shown	"	not included	included	
23. closing date for statistics	arrival of declaration	checking of declarations	customs clearance	date of declaration	date of declaration	
Partner	24. export	country specified in export declaration	last country to which goods are destined	first country to which goods are shipped	last country to which goods are destined	
	25. import	country specified in import declaration	first country from which goods are shipped	country of origin	country of origin	
Original data	26. export	export declaration	export declaration	export declaration	export declaration	
	27. import	import declaration	import declaration	import declaration	import declaration	
Units	28. quantitative unit	metric system	British standard weight	metric system	metric system	
	29. currency unit	new Taiwan \$	HK\$	Peso	Piastre	
	30. conversion rate (per US\$)	NT\$ 24.78	HK\$ 5.714	₱ 2	35.0 piastres	
Evaluation	31. export	FOB	FOB	FOB	FOB	
	32. import	CIF	CIF	CIF	CIF	
Commodity classification	33. commodity classification	SITC	SITC	special classification based on SITC	special classification based on French nomenclature	
	34. by commodity	—	2 digits	—	—	
	35. by country, commodity	—	2 digits	SITC 2 digits	—	
	36. by commodity, country	5 digits	6 digits	" 5 digits	SITC 3 digits	
Classification of areas	37. complete classification	not available	available	available	available	
	38. by country	available	"	"	"	
	39. by country, commodity	"	"	"	"	
	40. by commodity, country	"	"	"	"	
	41. by currency area	not available	not available	not available	not available	
	42. by continent	"	"	"	"	
43. monthly statistics	available	available	available	not available	available	
44. statistics by port	available	not available	available from Cent. B	not available from Stat. B	available	
Index	45. quantitative index	available	not available	available from Cent. B	not available from Stat. B	
	46. commodity price index	"	"	"	"	
47. language	Chinese, English	English	English	French, Vietnamese	French	

- Notes 1. "included"—included in figures shown in statistics.
2. "not included"—not included in figures shown in statistics.
3. "sep. shown"—included in ordinary statistics and also separately shown in different statistics.
4. "spec. shown"—not included in ordinary statistics but shown separately in special statistics.
5. For items 2~6, 37~41 "available"—shown in statistics concerned, "not available"—not shown in statistics concerned.

Table 2

		Thailand	Malaya	Singapore	Indonesia	Burma
1. Year		1958	1958	1959	1958	1957
Kinds of statistics	2. by commodity	available	available	available	available	available
	3. by country	not available	"	"	"	"
	4. by country and commodity	available	"	"	"	not available (available for rice)
	5. by commodity and country	"	"	not available	not available	not available
	6. amount of statistics (items)	15,361	54,000	not known	13,700	1,600
Kinds of trade	7. private trade	included	included	included	included	included
	8. government trade	"	"	"	"	"
	9. security (defense) goods	"	included	included (goods for foreign troops excluded)	not included	not included
	10. foreign aid goods	"	included	included	included	included
	11. reparations goods	none	none	none	"	"
Re-export, re-import, etc.	12. transit trade	spec. shown	included	not included	not included	spec. shown
	13. bonded warehouse trade	included	not included	included	"	spec. shown or separately shown
	14. transshipment	not included	not included	not included	"	not included
	15. re-export, re-import	included	included	included	included	spec. shown
	16. trade without requiring foreign exchange	included	included	included	included	included
Kinds of cargo	17. postal packages	included	included	included	included	sep. shown
	18. personal effects	not included	not included	not included	not included	not included
	19. diplomatic cargoes	included	"	"	"	"
	20. gold, silver, money	"	"	included (gold, money excluded)	included (money excluded)	spec. shown
	21. firearms, ammunition	"	included	included (goods for foreign troops excluded)	not included	included
	22. ship supplies	not included	included	included	included	spec. shown
23. closing date for statistics		arrival of declaration date of import duty payment	date of customs clearance	checking of declarations	date of government licence	customs clearance
Partner	24. export	first country to which goods are shipped	last country to which goods are destined	last country where goods are consumed	last country to which goods are destined	lost country to which goods are destined
	25. import	last country from which goods are shipped	country of origin	country of origin	last country where goods are processed	country of origin
Original data	26. export	export declaration	export declaration	export declaration	export declaration	bill of lading
	27. import	import declaration	import declaration	import declaration	certificate of customs clearance	certificate of customs clearance
Units	28. quantitative unit	metric system, yard system	metric system, yard system	metric, yard systems	metric, yard systems	yard system
	29. currency unit	Baht	M\$	M\$	Rupiah	Kyat
	30. conversion rate (per US\$)	21.23 bahis	M\$3	M\$3	11.40 rupiahs	4.760 kyats
Evaluation	31. export	FOB	FOB	FOB	FOB	FOB
	32. import	CIF (ad valorem tax included)	CIF	CIF	CIF	CIF
Commodity classification	33. commodity classification	SITC	SITC	SITC	special classification based on SITC	SITC, Burmese system
	34. by commodity	7 digits	1, 2, 3, 6 digits	1, 2, 3, 6 digits	—	—
	35. by country, commodity	1 digit	2, 6 digits	2, 6 digits	—	—
	36. by commodity, country	7 digits	3, 6 digits	3, 6 digits	—	6 digits
Classification of areas	37. complete classification	available	not available	available	—	not available
	38. by country	"	"	"	available	"
	39. by country, commodity	"	"	not available	—	"
	40. by commodity, country	"	available	available	not available	"
	41. by currency area	"	"	"	"	"
	42. by continent	not available	"	"	available	"
43. monthly statistics		available	available	available	available	available
44. statistics by port		available	not available	not available	available	available
Index	45. quantitative index	not available	not available	not available		available
	46. commodity price index	"	"	"		not available
47. language		English	English	English	Indonesian	English

Pakistan's special commodity classification: I foodstuff, beverage.
 II raw materials.
 III manufactured goods.
 IV animals.
 V mail goods.

		India	Ceylon	Pakistan	Ryukyu	North Borneo (Brunei, Sarawak)
1. Year		1959	1958	1959	1960	1958
Kinds of statistics	2. by commodity	available	available	available	available	available
	3. by country	"	"	"	"	"
	4. by country and commodity	"	"	"	"	"
	5. by commodity and country	not available	not available	"	"	not available
	6. amount of statistics (items)	31,000	40,000	20,000	"	not known
	Kinds of trade	7. private trade	included	included	sep. shown	included
8. government trade		"	"	"	"	"
9. security (defense) goods		not included	not included	not included	"	not known
10. foreign aid goods		"	"	included	spec. shown	"
11. reparations goods		none	none	none	none	none
Re-export, re-import, etc.	12. transit trade	included	included	not included	not included	not included
	13. bonded warehouse trade	"	spec. shown	included	included	"
	14. transshipment	not included	included	not included	not included	"
	15. re-export, re-import	spec. shown	"	included	included	"
16. trade without requiring foreign exchange		included	included	included	included (since 1958)	included
Kinds of cargo	17. postal packages	included	included	included	included	included
	18. personal effects	not included	not included	not included	not included	not known
	19. diplomatic cargoes	"	"	"	"	"
	20. gold, silver, money	"	"	"	included	included (money excluded)
	21. firearms, ammunition	"	included	sep. shown	"	not known
	22. ship supplies	"	spec. shown	not included	spec. shown	not included
23. closing date for statistics		customs clearance	customs clearance	arrival of reports	date of license	date of license
Partner	24. export	last country to which goods are destined	last country to which goods are destined	last country to which goods are destined	last country to which goods are destined	last country to which good are destined
	25. import	last country from which goods are shipped	country of origin	last country from which goods are shipped	country of origin	country of origin
Original data	26. export	export declaration	export declaration	bill of lading certificate of customs clearance	export declaration	export declaration
	27. import	import declaration	import declaration		import declaration	import declaration
Units	28. quantitative unit	yard system	yard system	yard system	metric system	BSW
	29. currency unit	Indian Rupee	Ceylonese Rupee	Pakistani Rupee	US\$	M\$
	30. conversion rate (per US\$)	Rs 4.7619	4735	Rs 4.742	—	M\$3
Evaluation	31. export	FOB	FOB	FOB	FOB	FOB
	32. import	CIF	CIF	CIF	CIF	CIF
Commodity classification	33. commodity classification	SITC, Indian system	SITC	special classification	SITC	SITC
	34. by commodity	3 digits	1, 2 digits	—	3, 5 digits	1, 3 digits
	35. by country, commodity	—	5 digits	SITC	3, 6 digits	1 digit
	36. by commodity, country	5, 6 digits		since July, 1960	3, 5 digits	6 digits
Classification of areas	37. complete classification	available	—	available	not available	not available
	38. by country	"	—	—	"	"
	39. by country, commodity	not available	—	—	"	"
	40. by commodity, country	available	available	available	"	"
	41. by currency area	not available	not available	"	"	"
	42. by continent	available	"	"	"	available
43. monthly statistics		available	not available	available	available	available
44. statistics by port		not available	available	available	available	not available
Index	45. quantitative index	not available	—	not available	not available	not available
	46. commodity price index	"	—	"	"	"
47. language		English	English	English	English	English

**Table 3—B. EXPORT AND RE-EXPORT BY
COMMODITY (5-digits) AND COUNTRY**

(US \$)

Commodities	Export Re- export	Countries	Units	Quantity	Value	Total	
89109 Musical instruments	EX	JAPAN	KG	13	55	17 213	
		SINGAPORE	UNIT	1	15		
				14	70		
	EX	USA NES	UNIT	3	143		
				3	143		
	RX	CAMBODIA	UNIT	1	95		
		MALAYA NES	UNIT	7	171		
		PHILIPPINES	UNIT	2	201		
				10	467		
	RX	UNITED KINGDOM	UNIT	22	381		
			22	381			
89201 Books, pamphlets	EX	JAPAN	KG	62	50	4838 4241	
		SOUTH KOREA	KG	2	10		
		HONGKONG	KG	22	5		
		LAOS	KG	1680	1440		
		PENANG	KG	1475	1456		
		MALAYA NES	KG	3	16		
		SINGAPORE	KG	31	73		
		CEYLON	KG	2	10		
				3277	3060		
		EX	DENMARK	KG	601		287
			UNITED KINGDOM	KG	276		258
	REP FRANCE		KG	4	12		
	W-GERMANY NES		KG	31	33		
	SWITZERLAND		KG	190	255		
			1102	845			
	EX	USA NES	KG	457	326		
				457	326		
	EX	ETHIOPIA	KG	2	10		
				3	10		
	RX	JAPAN	KG	5	3		
		TAIWAN	KG	5	5		
		HONGKONG	KG	152	27		
		SOUTH VIET NAM	KG	19	101		
		LAOS	KG	380	758		
		SINGAPORE *	KG	350	85		
		REP INDONESIA	KG	1	1		
				911	980		
		RX	UNITED KINGDOM	KG	925		135
			NETHERLANDS	KG	82		17
	REP FRANCE		KG	6	18		
	W-GERMANY NES		KG	34	113		
	SWITZERLAND		KG	1	5		
		1048	288				
RX	USA NES	KG	2593	634			
			2593	634			
89203 Newspapers, periodicals	RX	JAPAN	KG	206	171	670 442	
		TAIWAN	KG	2	2		
		HONGKONG	KG	182	62		
			390	235			
	RX	USA NES	KG	273	200		
				273	200		
	RX	HAWAII	KG	7	7		
				7	7		
	RX	LAOS	KG	5	6		
				5	6		
					5 6		
					675 448		