# Pak-India Trade liberalization

How will Pakistan's Manufacturing Sector Fare? A Comparative Advantage Analysis

Faiza Rehman

Fazal Rabbi

**Naheed Memon** 



# Liberalization Process Landmarks but liberalization ?

<u>Years</u>	Policy Changes
2004	Positive List comprising 757 items
	allowed to be traded
2006	Positive list expanded to 1075 items
2009	Positive increased to 1934 items
Feb <b>2012</b>	Positive list was abolished
March 2012	Negative list comprising of 1209
	items was introduced
	137 items were allowed to be traded
	via land
December 2012	

### Since 2006



### Why Insignificant Trade with India

- Motivations other than economic gains
- Multiple tariff and non tariff barriers restrict Pak-India trade (potential trade is estimate to be \$10 billion as compare to current trade of \$1.5 billion)
- Pakistan is reluctant to reciprocate the MFN status to India



# The Study

- The study constructs the Revealed Comparative Advantage index for all the manufacturing products at HS 2 digit level code for Pakistan, India and China for the years 2003 to 2012
- The data is extracted from United National Trade Statistics database(UN Comtrade)

# Revealed Comparative Advantage

Revealed comparative advantage (RCA) is an empirical measure of the extent to which a given country specializes in the export of a particular product or range of products, compared with a reference set of countries. It is usually computed from trade data.

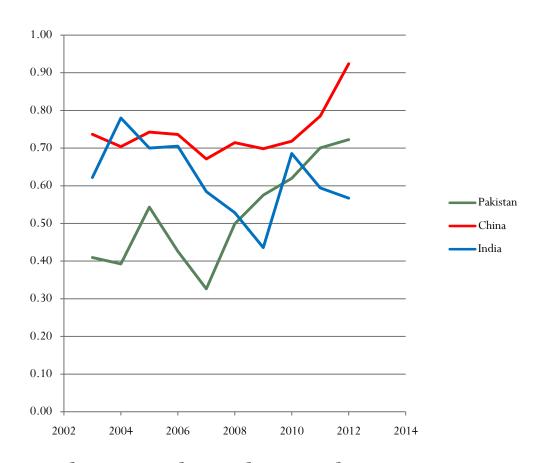
 $RAC = (\sum X_{ij}/\sum X_{Tj})/(\sum X_{iw}/\sum X_{Tw})$ 

Where  $\mathbf{i}$  and  $\mathbf{j}$  show goods and country respectively

- $\sum X_{ij}$  Export of particular good *i* of country *j*
- $\sum X_{Tj}$  Total exports of country j
- $\sum X_{iw}$  World export of particular good I
- $\sum x_{\tau w}$  Total world export

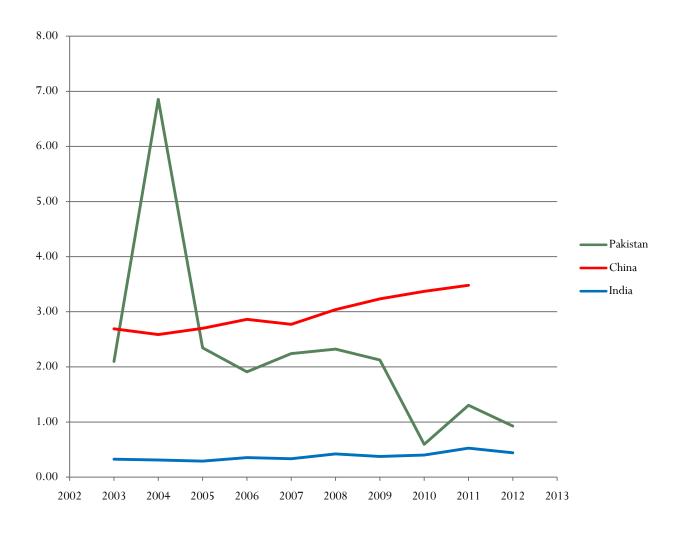


### RCA trend analysis over the years



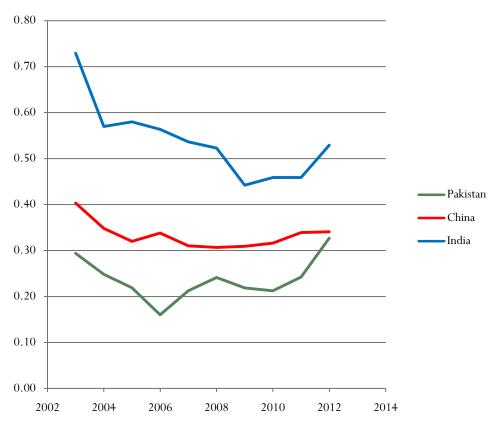
Plastics and articles (Code: 39)

- 18 Pakistani Industries are Vulnerable.
- These include
  Footwear, Cutlery, Pl
  astics, Paper, Pharma
  ceuticals, Knitted or
  crocheted
  fabric, Tobacco etc.



Knitted and Crotched Fabric (Code 60)

### RCA Trend Analysis Across Countries



Miscellaneous edible preparations (Code21)

- RCA profiles are compared of the three countries.
- Inefficient Trade in 17
   products (Small scale
   manufacturing
   products)

# Why compare with China

• First round of Free Trade Agreement (2006) completed with China recently

• Imports from China has increased tremendously even in No Concession category

Transportation cost with China is higher than that of with India

# **Policy Implications**

 Adequate protection and/or facilitation to 18 Vulnerable Industries

Disaggregate level investigation

Trade liberalization with India to avoid inefficient trade