

CHAPTER - 5
STUDY OF COINTEGRATION BETWEEN RUPEE / NEPALESE RUPEE
EXCHANGE RATE AND RELATIVE PRICE LEVEL

5.1 Introduction:

Rupee/ Nepalese Rupee exchange rate(e_t) and relative price level (p_t) series are non-stationary and both the series are I(1). Since both the series possess the same order of integrability, the possibility of *cointegration* between these series exists. The study of the *cointegration* between e_t and p_t is important in view of the fact that the existence of such *cointegration* implies long-run relationship between exchange rate and relative price level of the two countries concerned. In that case, exchange rates quoted between the currencies will be in parity with the relative prices prevailing at different time sequences of the period of study. This implies, on the other hand, that exchange rates quoted for the currencies are related to and in parity with the relative purchasing power of the currencies over the study-period. Consequently, '*Purchasing Power Parity Doctrine*' becomes a valid phenomenon in the determination of exchange rate of currencies of the countries concerned (viz, India and Nepal). It is, therefore, pertinent to examine if these variables (e_t and p_t) are *cointegrated*. The study in this chapter is devoted to address this issue.

5.2 Johansen Cointegration Test

The Johansen Cointegration Tests are used to examine if Rupee/ Nepalese Rupee exchange rate (e_t) and the relative price level (p_t) series are cointegrated at level over the period 1976:1-2006:1. The results of such tests are being presented through the Table-5.1.

Table-5.1
Results of Johansen Cointegration Tests for
 e_t and p_t at level [Period 1976:1-2006:1]
Trend Assumption: Linear Deterministic Trend (Restricted)
Lag Intervals (in first Difference): 1- 4

I Unrestricted Cointegration Rank λ_{trace} Test					
Variables Involved: e_t and p_t at Level					
Null Hypothesis	Alternative Hypothesis	Eigen Value	Trace Statistics(λ_{trace})	Critical values	
				5%	1%
$r=0$	$r>0$	0.082	14.529	25.32	30.45
$r\leq 1$	$r\geq 1$	0.039	4.641	12.25	16.26
II Unrestricted Cointegration Rank λ_{max} Test					
Variables Involved: e_t and p_t at Level					
Null Hypothesis	Alternative Hypothesis	Eigen Value	Maximum Eigen Statistics (λ_{max})	Critical Values	
				5%	1%
$r=0$	$r=1$	0.082	9.888	18.96	23.65
$r\leq 1$	$r=2$	0.039	4.641	12.25	16.26

5.3 Findings From the Table 5.1

It is observed from the Table 5.1 that

- i. for the null-hypothesis $r=0$ against the alternative hypothesis $r>0$, $\lambda_{\text{trace}}(0)= 14.529$ is lower than the corresponding 5% and 1% critical values. Therefore, the null-hypothesis of 'no cointegrating' relation cannot be rejected even at 5% level.
- ii. for the null-hypothesis $r\leq 1$ against the alternative hypothesis $r>1$, the value of $\lambda_{\text{trace}} (1)$ statistic is 4.641 which is lower than 1% and 5% critical values. So the null hypothesis of $r\leq 1$ cannot be rejected even at 5% level.

- iii. for the null hypothesis $r=0$ against the alternative hypothesis $r=1$ under λ_{\max} test, $\lambda_{\max}(1,0)$ value is 9.888. It is lower than the corresponding 5% and 1% critical values. It implies that the null hypothesis of ‘*no cointegration*’ cannot be rejected at even 5% level.
- iv. for the null hypothesis $r = 1$ against the alternative hypothesis $r = 2$ under λ_{\max} test, $\lambda_{\max}(1,2) = 4.641$ falls short of the corresponding critical values at 5% and 1% levels. Consequently, the null hypothesis of ‘*no cointegration*’ between the variables appears to be accepted at even 5% level.

5.4 Overview of the Findings of Cointegration Study and Economic Implications

It is observed from the findings in Section 5.3 that

- i. there does not exist any ‘*cointegration*’ between Rupee/Nepalese Rupee exchange rate (e_t) and the relative price level (p_t) at level over the period of study (1976:1-2006:1).
- ii. though both of e_t and p_t are $I(1)$, these are not $CI(1,0)$.

The absence of *cointegration* between exchange rate (e_t) and relative price level (p_t) at level bears some important economic implications. The ‘*non-cointegration*’ between e_t and p_t implies that the exchange rates quoted between Indian and Nepalese Currency were not related to the relative purchasing power of the currencies over the period of study. Consequently, there did not exist any long-run relationship between exchange rates quoted in international trade and the relative price levels in these countries.

Study of *cointegration* enquires into the existence of equilibrium relationship postulated by the economic theory. In the present context the economic theory refers to the ‘*Purchasing Power Parity Theory*’ which stresses upon the long-run relationship between exchange rate and relative purchasing power of currencies concerned. Under this theory exchange rate, in the long-run, establishes, the *law of one price* (LOOP).

However, the absence of *cointegration* between e_t and p_t , as found in section 5.3, fails to testify for the validity of the ‘*Purchasing Power Parity Doctrine*’ over the period of study concerned. It, therefore, appears that the Rupee/ Nepalese Rupee exchange rates,

prevailing over the period of study, were largely determined by some factors other than contemporary relative price levels.

5.5 Limitations of Study with the Historical Dataset (Covering the period 1976:1 – 2006:1)

Lucas (1976) has pointed out that econometric relationships change over time following changes in economic policies, social set-ups, administrative decisions, management considerations, political liabilities and institutional opportunities etc. Thus multiforced changes affect the behaviour of macroeconomic variables leading to changes in their relations as a consequence. Thus historical dataset embodies such varying economic relations. Consequently, the econometric relations among the variables estimated with the historical dataset fail to represent the true econometric relations among the variables concerned.

The historical dataset used in this study covers a period of about thirty-one years (1976:1-2006:1). This period is marked by spectacular changes in economic-social-administrative-political fronts. In this period fixed exchange rate system gave away for '*crawling peg*' system which was finally replaced by '*flexible exchange rate*' system. Thus exchange rate system finally became free from government intervention and varied over time following variations in market forces. Within this period, era of liberalization dawned and globalization was welcome in the realm of trade. Bilateral and multi-lateral trade expansion took place among the South Asian Countries. **SAARC** was established and consequently both India and Nepal took important steps in bringing forth expansion of trade. Thus both the countries experienced changes in economic-social-political fronts and consequently economic relations among variables also underwent changes.

It may also be noted that these changes do not occur everyday. Changes in economic relations occur and continue for some time. Then again such relations change after the

passage of some time. Such changes in relations embody '*structural changes*' by nature. Consequently, historical dataset is marked by the presence of '*structural changes*'.

In the historical dataset (1976:1-2006:1) used in our study is found to contain two sub-periods giving forth two distinct relations between exchange rate(e_t) and relative price level(p_t). The first sub period ranges from 1976:1 to 1993:1 and the second sub period extends from 1993:2 to 2006:1.

These two sub periods have been identified through the '*Chow Tests*'. However, the exact period i.e, the coverage of the each of the sub-periods has been identified through laborious '*trial and error*' methods. Identification of the end of the first sub-period and the beginning of the second sub period involved laborious econometric estimations. The justifications of such identifications becomes evident from the econometric findings presented in subsequent chapters.

5.6 Stationarity of e_t and p_t in the Sub-period 1976:1-1993:1: ADF Unit Root Test

The stationarity of e_t and p_t in the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1 has been examined through

- i. the ADF Unit Root Test, and
- ii. the Correlogram Study.

The results of the ADF Unit Root Tests on e_t and p_t at level and at first difference have been presented through the Tables 5.2 and 5.3 below.

Table: 5.2
Results of the ADF Unit Root Tests for e_t and p_t at Level
(Sub-period: 1976:1-1993:1)

Variable	Null Hypothesis	Lag*	ADF Test Stat.	Prob.	Mac-Kinnon Critical Value**		
					1%	5%	10%
e_t	e_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	0	-2.010	0.282	-3.530	-2.905	-2.590
	e_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant and Linear Trend	0	-2.719	0.232	-4.099	-3.477	-3.166
	e_t has unit root Exogenous: None	0	0.184	0.737	-2.599	-1.946	-1.614
p_t	p_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	2	-0.737	0.829	-3.533	-2.906	-2.591
	p_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant and Linear Trend	0	-4.196	0.008	-4.099	-3.477	-3.166
	p_t has unit root Exogenous: None	2	-1.503	0.123	-2.600	-1.946	-1.613

**MacKinnon (1996) one-sided p-values. *Based on SIC, Max Lag =10

Table 5.3

Results of the ADF Unit Root Tests for e_t and p_t at First Difference (De_t and Dp_t)
(Sub-period: 1976:1-1993:1)

Variable	Null Hypothesis	Lag*	ADF Test Stat.	Prob.	Mac-Kinnon Critical Value**		
					1%	5%	10%
De_t	e_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	0	-9.953	0.000	-3.530	-2.905	-2.590
	e_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant and Linear Trend	0	-9.917	0.000	-4.099	-3.477	-3.166
	e_t has unit root Exogenous: None	0	-9.971	0.000	-2.599	-1.946	-1.614
Dp_t	p_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	1	-8.554	0.000	-3.533	-2.906	-2.591
	p_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant and Linear Trend	1	-8.492	0.000	-4.099	-3.477	-3.166
	p_t has unit root Exogenous: None	1	-8.407	0.000	-2.600	-1.946	-1.613

**MacKinnon (1996) one-sided p-values. *Based on SIC, Max Lag = 10

5.7 Findings From The Tables 5.2-5.3

(A) The Tables 5.2 shows that

- i. the ADF test statistic for e_t with *intercept term* as well as that for e_t with ‘*intercept and linear trend term*’ in the maintained regression equations fall short of critical values even at 10% level.

- ii. the ADF test statistic for e_t with '*no intercept term and linear trend*' term in the maintained regression equation also falls short of the critical values even at 10% level.

All these findings indicate that e_t is 'non-stationary' in the period 1976:1-1993:1.

(B) The Table 5.2 further shows that

- i. the ADF test statistics for p_t with '*intercept*' and without '*intercept as well as linear trend*' in the maintained regression equations are lower than the corresponding critical values even at 10% level.
- ii. the ADF test statistic for p_t with intercept and linear trend term in the maintained regression equation exceeds 1% critical values.

These findings indicate contradictory status regarding stationarity of p_t . In order to ascertain its stationarity, study of its correlogram becomes necessary.

(C) The Table 5.3 shows that

- a. the ADF test statistic for De_t (i.e. e_t at first difference) with *intercept* or '*with intercept as well as linear trend*' or '*without intercept and linear trend*' term in the maintained regression equations exceed the critical values even at 1% level.
- b. the ADF test statistic for Dp_t (i.e. p_t at first difference) exceed the critical values even at 1% level when the maintained regression equations are estimated with '*intercept only*' or '*with intercept and linear trend term*' or without '*intercept and linear trend term*'.

These findings indicate that

- i. both De_t and Dp_t are stationary even at 1% level, and therefore,
- ii. $e_t \sim I(1)$ and $p_t \sim I(1)$.

5.8 Stationarity of e_t and p_t in the Sub-period 1976:1-1993:1 : Correlogram Study

The stationarity of e_t and p_t over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1 has been examined through the study of their correlograms. The correlogram for e_t at level and at first difference for this sub-period are given by the Figures 5.1-5.2. The correlograms for p_t at level and at first difference for this sub-period are being presented through the Figures 5.3-5.4.

Figure 5.1

**Correlogram of Rupee/Nepalese Rupee (e_t) Series at level
[Sub-Period: 1976:1- 1993:1]**

Included observations: 69		Sample: 1976:1 1993:1				
Autocorrelation	Partial Correlation	AC	PAC	Q-Stat	Prob	
██████████	██████████	1	0.898	0.898	58.061	0.000
██████████	██████████	2	0.828	0.115	108.22	0.000
██████████	██████████	3	0.785	0.123	153.92	0.000
██████████	██████████	4	0.727	-0.051	193.80	0.000
██████████	██████████	5	0.684	0.045	229.59	0.000
██████████	██████████	6	0.607	-0.195	258.20	0.000
██████████	██████████	7	0.567	0.126	283.58	0.000
██████████	██████████	8	0.542	0.053	307.19	0.000
██████████	██████████	9	0.491	-0.070	326.84	0.000
██████████	██████████	10	0.448	-0.025	343.54	0.000
██████████	██████████	11	0.398	-0.055	356.95	0.000
██████████	██████████	12	0.371	0.057	368.79	0.000
██████████	██████████	13	0.303	-0.246	376.81	0.000
██████████	██████████	14	0.237	0.002	381.81	0.000
██████████	██████████	15	0.197	-0.002	385.34	0.000
██████████	██████████	16	0.164	0.078	387.82	0.000
██████████	██████████	17	0.130	-0.058	389.40	0.000
██████████	██████████	18	0.075	-0.059	389.94	0.000
██████████	██████████	19	0.050	0.064	390.19	0.000
██████████	██████████	20	0.061	0.132	390.56	0.000
██████████	██████████	21	0.042	-0.039	390.74	0.000
██████████	██████████	22	0.021	-0.024	390.79	0.000
██████████	██████████	23	-0.013	-0.093	390.80	0.000
██████████	██████████	24	-0.037	-0.064	390.95	0.000
██████████	██████████	25	-0.066	-0.065	391.43	0.000
██████████	██████████	26	-0.104	0.009	392.66	0.000
██████████	██████████	27	-0.154	-0.172	395.42	0.000
██████████	██████████	28	-0.186	-0.011	399.57	0.000

Figure 5.2
Correlogram of Rupee/Nepalese Rupee (e_t) at First Difference
[Sub-Period: 1976:1- 1993:1]

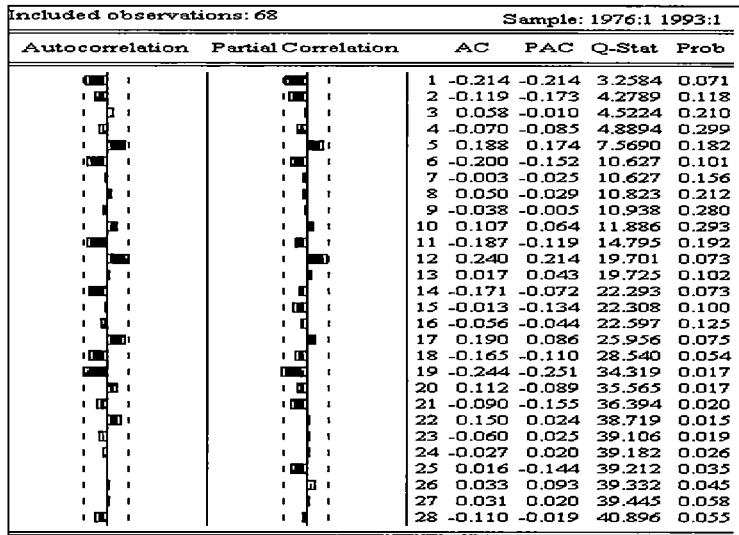


Figure 5.3
Correlogram of Relative Price Level (p_t) at level
[Sub-Period: 1976:1- 1993:1]

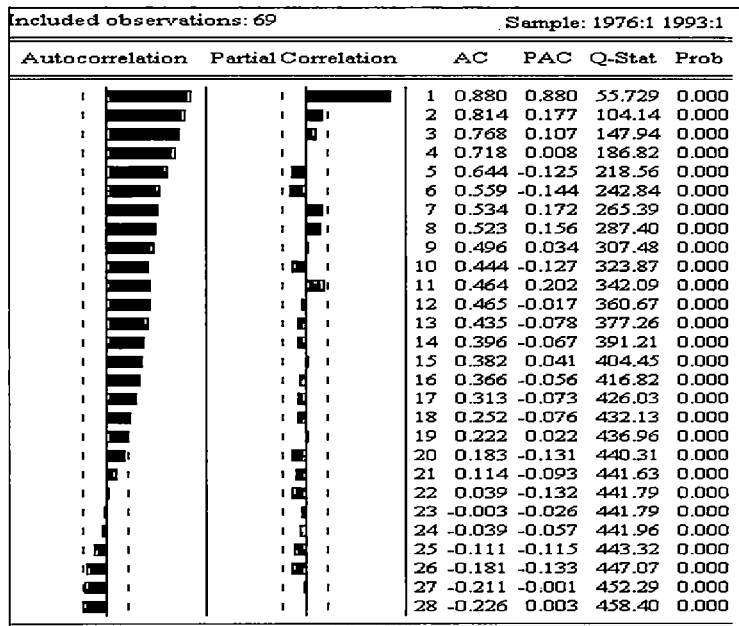
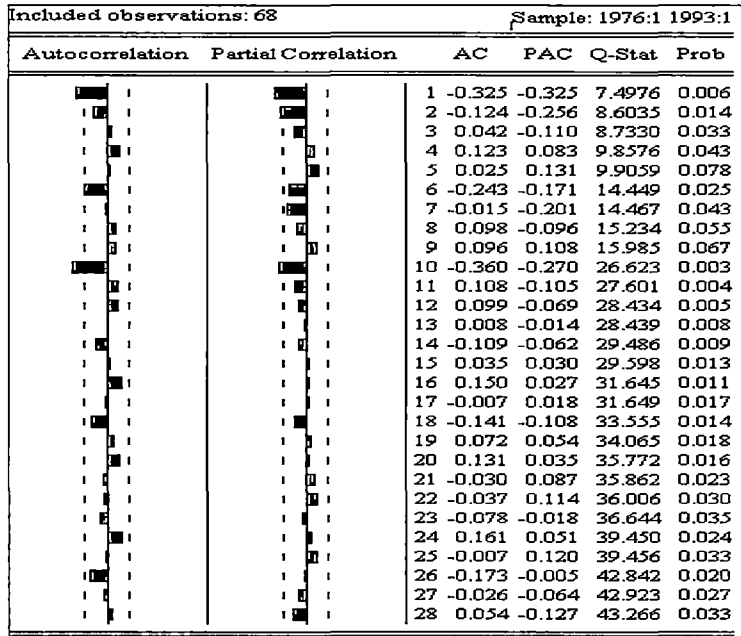


Figure 5.4
Correlogram of Relative Price Level (p_t) at First Difference
[Sub-Period: 1976:1- 1993:1]



5.9 Findings From the Correlogram Study (Sub-period: 1976:1-1993:1)

(A) It is observed from the Figures 5.1-5.2 that

- i. the *ACF* for e_t at level displays a long dying out pattern of spikes.
- ii. the *PACF* for e_t at level contains a singular significant spike at lag one.
- iii. the *ACF* for e_t at first difference is marked by the absence of any dying out pattern of spikes.
- iv. the *PACF* for e_t at first difference contains no singularly significant spike at lag one.

All these observations confirm that

- i. e_t at level in the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1 is non-stationary.
- ii. e_t attains stationarity upon first differencing over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1.

(B) The Figures 5.3-5.4 show that

- i. the *ACF* of p_t at *level* over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1 is marked by the presence of a long dying out pattern of spikes.
- ii. the *PACF* of p_t at *level* over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1 contains unique significant spike at lag one.
- iii. the *ACF* of p_t at *first difference* exhibits no long dying out pattern of spikes.
- iv. the *PACF* of p_t at *first difference* is marked by the absence of any singularly significant spike at lag one.

These features of the correlograms of p_t at *level* and at *first difference* indicate that

- i. p_t is non-stationary at level, and
- ii. p_t is stationary at first difference over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1.

5.10 Review of the Findings on Stationarity of e_t and p_t Over the Sub-period 1976:1-1993:1

The Finding in Sections 5.7-5.9 confirm that over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1

- i. both e_t and p_t are non-stationary at level.
- ii. both e_t and p_t attain stationarity upon first differencing, and, therefore,
- iii. $e_t \sim I(1)$ and $p_t \sim I(1)$.

5.11 Stationarity of e_t and p_t in the Sub-period 1993:2-2006:1: ADF Unit Root Tests

Stationarity of e_t and p_t in the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1 has been examined through ADF unit root tests. Results of such tests for e_t and p_t at *level* and at *first difference* are being presented through the Tables 5.4-5.5.

Table 5.4
Results of ADF Unit Root Tests for e_t and p_t at Level:
[Sub-period: 1993:2-2006:1]

Variable	Hypothesis	Lag*	ADF Test Stat.	Prob.	Mac-Kinon Critical Value**		
					1%	5%	10%
e_t	e_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	2	-1.626	0.462	-3.571	-2.922	-2.599
	e_t has unit root Exogenous: Intercept and Linear Trend	2	-1.946	0.615	-4.157	-3.504	-3.182
	e_t has unit root Exogenous: None	2	0.906	0.900	-2.613	-1.948	-1.612
p_t	p_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	6	-1.383	0.582	-3.585	-2.928	-2.602
	p_t has unit root Exogenous: Intercept and Linear Trend	6	-1.307	0.874	-4.176	-3.513	-3.187
	p_t has unit root Exogenous: None	6	-1.067	0.254	-2.617	-1.948	-1.612

**MacKinnon (1996) one-sided p-values.*Based on SIC, Max Lag = 10

Table 5.5
Results of ADF Unit Root Tests for e_t and p_t at First Difference:
[Sub-period: 1993:2-2006:1]

Variable	Null Hypothesis	Lag*	ADF Test Stat.	Prob.	Mac-Kinnon Critical Value**		
					1%	5%	10%
De_t	De_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	1	-8.977	0.000	-3.571	-2.922	-2.599
	De_t has unit root Exogenous: Intercept and Linear Trend	1	-8.892	0.000	-4.157	-3.504	-3.182
	De_t has unit root Exogenous: None	1	-8.938	0.000	-2.616	-1.948	-1.612
Dp_t	Dp_t has unit root Exogenous: Constant	5	-4.646	0.0005	-3.585	-2.928	-2.602
	Dp_t has unit root Exogenous: Intercept and Linear Trend	5	-4.621	0.003	-4.176	-3.513	-3.187
	Dp_t has unit root Exogenous: None	5	-4.700	0.000	-2.617	-1.948	-1.612

**MacKinnon (1996) one-sided p-values. *Based on SIC, Max Lag = 10

5.12 Findings From the Table 5.4-5.5

(A) Tables 5.4 and 5.5 show that

- i. the ADF Test Statistics for e_t at level fall short of the critical values even at 10% level when the maintained regression equations are estimated with an *intercept term* only or with an *intercept term along with a linear trend* or without an *intercept term as well as a linear trend*.

- ii. the ADF Test Statistics for De_t (i.e. e_t at first difference) exceed the critical values even at 1% level when the maintained regression equations are estimated with an *intercept* or with *an intercept along with a linear trend* or without *any intercept and linear trend*.

These findings indicate that

- a. e_t is *non-stationary* at level even at 10% level of significance, and
- b. De_t (i.e. e_t upon first differencing) is *stationary* even at 1% level.

(B) It is further observed from the Tables that

- i. the ADF test statistics for p_t at level are lower than the corresponding critical values even at 10% level when estimated regression equations contain an *intercept term* or an *intercept term together with a linear trend* or without an *intercept term and a time trend*.
- ii. the ADF test statistic for Dp_t (i.e. p_t at first difference) exceed the corresponding critical values at 1% level when maintained regression equations are estimated with an *intercept term* or with *an intercept term together with a linear trend* or without *any intercept term and a linear trend*.

These findings indicate that in the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1

- i. p_t is *non-stationary* at level, and
- ii. p_t attains *stationarity* upon first differencing such that Dp_t is *stationary* at level even at 1% level.

5.13 Stationarity of e_t and p_t in the Sub-period 1993:2-2006:1: Correlogram Study

Stationarity of e_t and p_t in the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1 has also been examined through the study of their respective correlograms. The correlograms of e_t *at level* and at *first difference* are being presented through the Figures 5.5-5.6. Moreover, Figures 5.7 and 5.8 present the correlograms of p_t *at level* and at *first difference* respectively.

Figure 5.5
Correlogram of Rupee/Nepalese Rupee (e_t) at Level
[Sub-Period: 1993:2-2006:1]

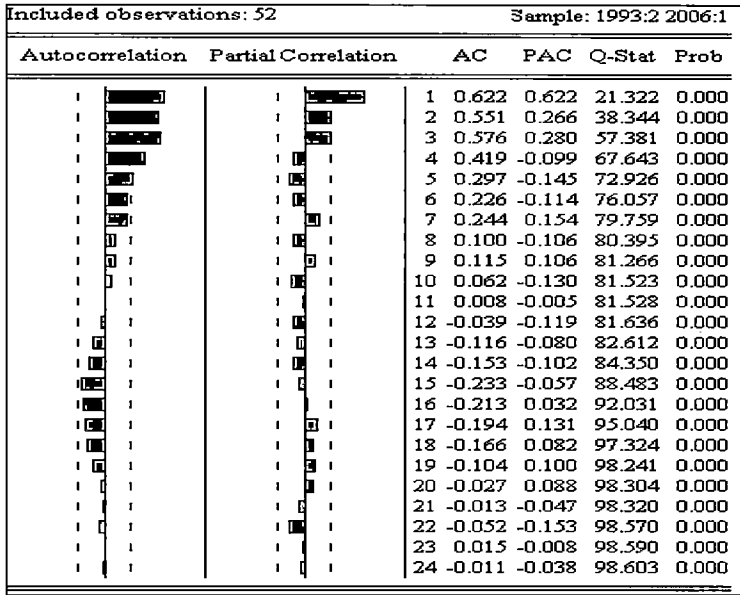


Figure 5.6
Correlogram of Rupee/Nepalese Rupee (e_t) at First Difference
[Sub-Period: 1993:2-2006:1]

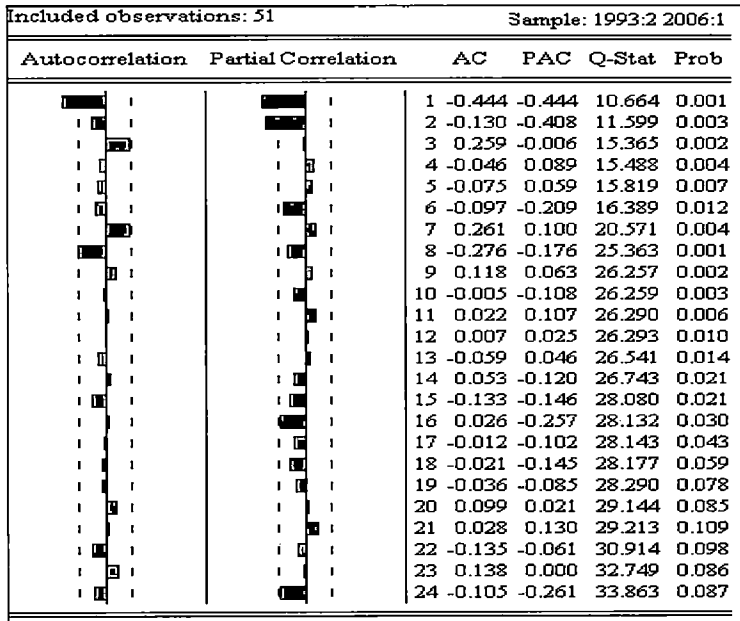


Figure 5.7
Correlogram of Relative Price Level (p_t) at Level
[Sub-Period: 1993:2-2006:1]

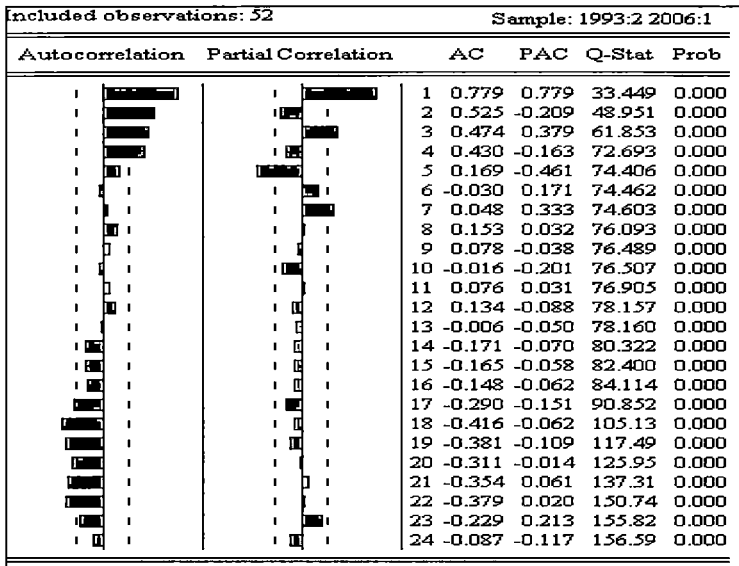
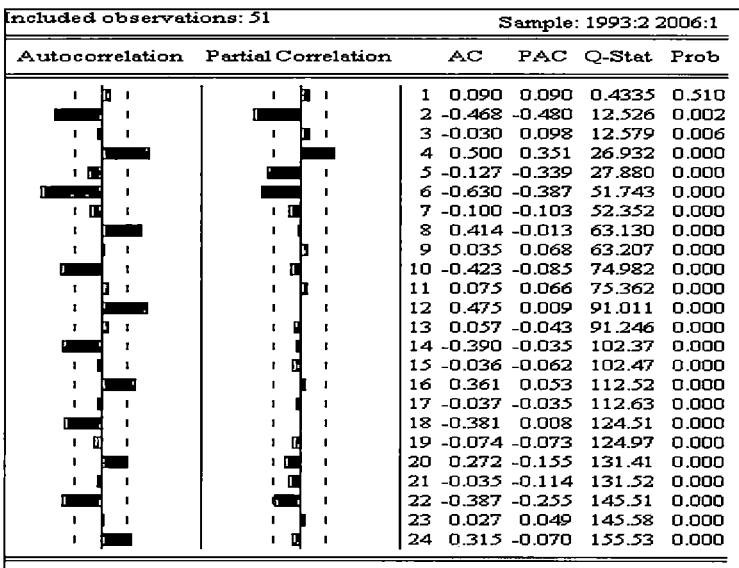


Figure 5.8
Correlogram of Relative Price Level (p_t) at First Difference
[Sub-Period: 1993:2-2006:1]



5.14 Findings From the Correlogram Study (Sub-Period: 1993:2-2006:1)

(A) It is observed from the figures 5.5-5.6 that in the Sub-Period: 1993:2-2006:1

- i. the *ACF* of e_t *at level* exhibits a long dying out pattern of spikes extending beyond 20th lag.
- ii. the *PACF* of e_t *at level* exhibits the presence of a ‘*unique*’ significant spike at lag one.
- iii. the *ACF* of De_t (i.e. e_t at first difference) is marked by the absence of a dying out ladder like pattern of spikes.
- iv. the *PACF* of De_t contains no *singularly significant* spike at lag one.

All these features of the correlograms of e_t *at level* and *first difference* confirm the findings of the ADF unit root tests that over the period 1993:2-2006:1

- i. e_t is non-stationary *at level*, and
- ii. De_t is stationary at level i.e, e_t attains stationarity upon *first differencing*.

(B) The Figures 5.7 and 5.8 show that in the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1

- i. the *ACF* of p_t *at level* contains a long dying out pattern of spikes extending beyond the 20th lag.
- ii. the *PACF* of p_t at level is devoid of any such pattern and any *singularly significant* spike at lag one.
- iii. the *ACF* of Dp_t (i.e p_t upon first difference) exhibits no dying out pattern of spikes.
- iv. the *PACF* of De_t is marked by the absence of any *unique* significant spike at lag one.

All these features of the correlograms of p_t *at level* and at *first difference* testify that over the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1

- a. p_t *at level* is non-stationary, and
- b. Dp_t is stationary at level and, therefore, p_t attains stationarity upon first differencing.

5.15 Review of Findings on Stationarity and Integrability of e_t and p_t over the Sub-Period 1993:2-2006:1

The findings on *Stationarity* and *Integrability* of e_t and p_t over the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1 in the sections 5.12 through 5.14 confirm that

- i. e_t and p_t at level are non-stationary.
- ii. e_t and p_t are stationary upon first differencing, and
- iii. $e_t \sim I(1)$ and $p_t \sim I(1)$.

5.16 Summary of the Findings and Economic Implications

The findings in this Chapter (Chapter 5) over the subsections 5.7-5.14 confirm that

- i. $e_t \sim I(1)$ and $p_t \sim I(1)$ over the sub-period 1976:1-1993:1, and
- ii. $e_t \sim I(1)$ and $p_t \sim I(1)$ over the sub-period 1993:2-2006:1.

In both the sub-periods, e_t and p_t are non-stationary while both of them possess the same order of integrability. These are integrated of order one. This indicates that there exist a scope of enquiring into the existence of long-run relationship between these variables in both the sub-periods. Consequently, the study of *cointegration* between e_t and p_t is theoretically justified in both the sub-periods. The *cointegration* between e_t and p_t , if established in any of the sub-periods, would support the doctrine of '*Purchasing Power Parity*' for the quoted exchange rates between the currencies of India and Nepal in that sub-period. The study in the next chapter is devoted to address this issue.
