National Institute of Open Schooling
Senior Secondary Course: Economics
Lesson 5: Meaning, Scope and its Need in Economics
Worksheet-5

Statistics plays an important role in our day to day life because we are constantly surrounded by numbers and quantities. We may not realize the existence of statistics in day to activities but it is there, for example when you make a monthly budget for your household expenditure or when you calculate your average marks in a particular class. These are just two examples of statistics in our daily life. Statistics is useful not only for individual decision making but also for decision making at macro-economic level and its scope varies from biology, botany, astronomy, physics, chemistry, sociology, to psychology and many more fields. In the light of the given paragraph answer the following questions.

1. Do you think statistics in an integral part of our lives? If yes. How?

2. Cite 5 examples from daily life where you observe data or numbers.

3. Do you think statistics is always about numbers? Support your answer with a relevant example.

4. Why is it necessary to study statistical data? Explain with reasons the need of statistics.

5. Since statistics play crucial role in decision making, do you think that statistical numbers are always reliable? If not, why?

Given below is a hypothetical table of scores attained by a cricketer in last 5 matches played during last 5 months. Study the table and answer the questions that follow

Months	Score
January	48
February	11
March	98
April	120
May	50

6. Does the given table signify singular or plural sense of statistics? and why?

7. If some more information is provided as to the method of measuring the scores, method of constructing the above table, collection of data etc. Would you now be changing your answer given in question 4? Why did you do so?

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Suresh is a statistical officer; his supervisor has asked him to produce a statistical report in a time bound manner. For the purpose of making this report he has collected the data from different sources. While organizing the data he observed some inconsistencies in the data reported by different sources which may distort the result of the analysis but since he is short of time, he decided to ignore the inconsistencies. In the light of the given situation answer the following questions.

8. If you had been at Suresh's place would you consider ignoring such inconsistency in the collected data?

9. How this inconsistency may affect the result of statistical analysis?

10. How can such inconsistencies be taken care of? Is it possible to rule out the possibility of any inconsistency altogether?