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This book entitled "Statistical Methods" was first published in 1969. The 46th edition of the book has many new features:

- The book is written in a very simple and lucid style.
- For the first time the book is being published in the broader form on the initiative of the publisher, Sultan Chand & Sons.
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- · Hints to ticklish problems have been given wherever necessary.
- Every effort has been made to minimise the printing errors and other mistakes.

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Dr. S.P. Gupta (born 1942) has a brilliant academic record of teaching for more than 4 decades in Indian and Foreign Universities. He was a student of Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi. He obtained B.Com. (H) and M.Com. Degree with "Advanced Statistics" as specialization and taught for more than a decade in SRCC.



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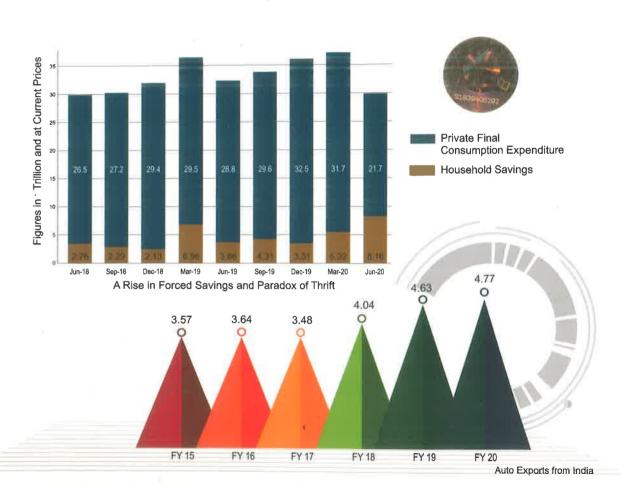




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Preface

To the Forty Sixth Edition

The First Edition of this book was published in 1969, i.e., more than 50 years ago. During this intervening period, many books by Indian and Foreign authors on the subject came in the market. However, this book continued to face the competition and remain outstanding.

This 46th thoroughly revised and enlarged edition not only incorporates the latest changes but also the valuable suggestions and feedback received from students, teachers and other readers in different parts of India and Abroad. This edition will give completely new look and feel.

I take this opportunity to thank all the readers in India and Abroad who have spared their valuable time in making suggestions for improving the quality of the book.

I am specially thankful to Prof. Abad Ahmad, Prof. B.S. Sharma, Dr. Sarika, Rajeev Gulhar and Sameer who have been a source of great inspiration.

My very special thanks to M/s Sultan Chand & Sons New Delhi for their efforts and co-operation in publishing the book in an elegant form.

I firmly believe that the road to improvement is never ending. I shall look forward and gratefully acknowledge all suggestions received.

Last but not the least, I am indebted to the Almighty, the supreme Architect of the Universe, for infusing in me life and blood for the work I have been doing.

Dr. S.P. GUPTA

To the First Edition

Statistical Methods are plying an ever-increasing role in framing suitable policies in a large number of diversified fields covering natural, physical and social sciences. Statistics today has become indispensable in all phases of human endeavour.

This book is primarily meant for undergraduate students of Commerce and Economics. I have gone through the syllabi and examination papers of almost all universities where the subject is taught so as to make it as comprehensive as possible. A large number of properly graded questions and problems, mainly from examination question papers of various universities, are given at the end of each chapter. Answers to the problems, along with the hints, where necessary, have also been provided.

The lucidity of style and simplicity of expression have been my twin objects to remove the awe which is usually associated with most mathematical and statistical textbooks. The only mathematical background needed for understanding the entire book is a little arithmetic and elementary algebra. In order that the students may not feel any difficulty in following the text, steps in calculation along with every formula have also been given.

I am deeply indebted to my distinguished teacher, Dr. C.B. Gupta, Head of the Deptt. of Commerce, Shri Ram Collage of Commerce, who has always been a source of help, guidance and inspiration to me. I also owe a great deal to my teachers: Dr. R.L. Gulati of the Faculty of Mathematics, University of Delhi; Mr. K.R. Rao (Statistician), Delhi Cloth Mills; Prof. J.K. Gautam, Deptt. of Commerce, Rajdhani College, Prof. Vidya Rattan and Prof. R.K. Lele of S.R. College who have taught me the subject. I acknowledge with thanks the valuable suggestions of my friends, Mr. R.N. Goel of S.R. College and Mr. Y.P. Sabharwal, Dr. N.K. Kakkar and Dr. D.B. Gupta of Ramjas Collage.

Any suggestions for the improvement of the book shall be highly welcome and gratefully acknowledged.

1st Jan., 1969, S.R. College of Commerce, Delhi University, Delhi.

S.P. GUPTA

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