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# Advantages of forecasting

- Effective handling of uncertainty
- Better labor relations
- Balanced work–load
- Image: Minimization in the fluctuations of production
- Better use of production facilities
- Better material management
- Better customer service
- Better utilization of capital and resources
- Better design of facilities and production system.

### Limitation

- Forecasting is to be made on the basis of certain
- assumptions and human judgments which yield wrong
- result.
- It can not be considered as a scientific method for guessing
- future events.
- It does not specify any concrete relationship between past
- and future events.

- ▶ □ It requires high degree of skill.
- It needs adequate reliable information so difficult
- to collect reliable information.
- Heavy cost and time consuming.
- $\blacktriangleright$   $\Box$  It can not be applied to a long period.

# Methods of forecasting

- There are mainly two methods:
- 1. Qualitative
- 2. Quantitative

### Methods :-

- Survey method
- Time series analysis
- Delphi Method
- Regression analysis
- Business Barometers
- Input output analysis

### **Regression Analysis:-**

Regression analysis is used to find out the effect of changes of the relative movements of two or more inter-related variables. In the modern business conditions and situations ,number of factor are responsible for the changes made in the variables.

For example, if we take two inter related variables viz. cost of production and profit, there will be a direct relationship prevailing between this two variables. It is possible to have an estimate of profit on the basis of cost of production, provided other things remain the same.

#### Business barometer:-

Index numbers are used to measure the state of condition of business condition between two or more periods. Business trend, seasonal fluctuations of a business and cyclical movements are studied with the help of index numbers.

### Input and output analysis:-

Under this method, a forecast can be made if the relationship between input and output is known. At the same time, the input requirements can be forecast of the basis of output. In other words, input can be determined on the basis of need of output

### Survey method:-

Field survey can be conducted to collect information regarding the attitude of people.

#### Time series analysis:-

This method is quite accurate where future is expected to be similar to the past. Time series analysis can be applied. Only when the data are available for a long period of time