

STATISTICAL INVESTIGATION

By the term investigation (or enquiry) we mean the search for information or knowledge.

Statistical investigation, thus, implies search for knowledge with the help of statistical devices enquiries have always required considerable skill on the part of the statistician, rooted in a broad knowledge of the subject matter area and combined with considerable ingenuity in overcoming the numerical facts since statistical analysis is not possible without them.

For example, if an investigation is made into accounts of a college hostel, then the investigation will mainly cover:

1. Income from residents as seat rent, meal charge, any grant from college.
2. Expenditure as hostel rent, overhead charges.

3. Expenditure on dry rations, broad meals, including special meals.

4. Expenditure for annual functions.

ORGANISATION OF STATISTICAL INVESTIGATION

Statistical investigation is a long and comprehensive process. It extends over various stages from

1. Planning of statistical investigation.
2. Collection of data.
3. Editing of data.
4. Presentation of data.
5. Analysis of data
6. Interpretation of data.
7. Preparation of the report.

PLANNING OF STATISTICAL INVESTIGATION

Planning is essential to get the best results at the minimum cost and time. It

is essential to consider the following points while planning a statistical investigation.

1. Objective of the enquiry should be fully known.
2. Scope of the enquiry should be determined.
3. Nature of information to be collected should be decided.
4. Unit of data collection
5. Source of data collection or type of data to be used, that is, primary or secondary should be decided.
6. Method of data collection, census or sampling method, should be decided beforehand.
7. Choice of frame should be made.