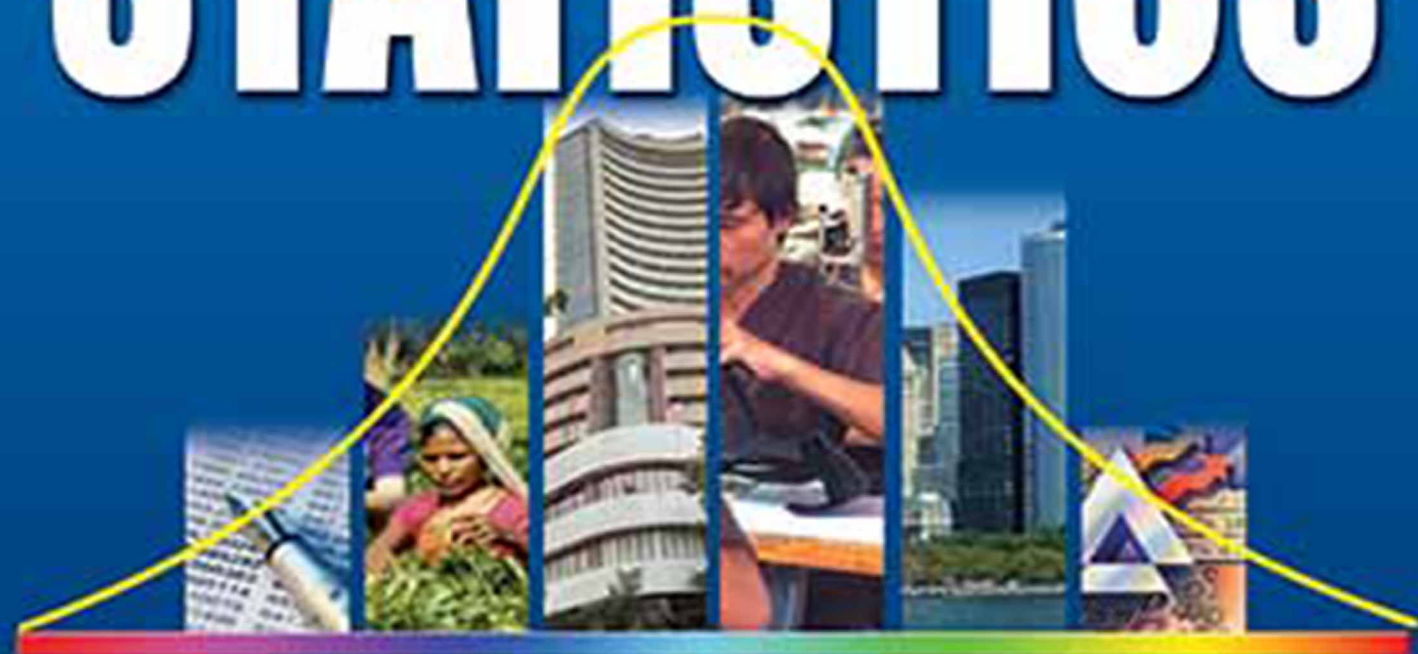


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PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

Statistics has been given an important place in our courses of studies in various social sciences. No student of commerce, economics, management and other social studies can attain the goal without studying statistics. The study of statistics is very engaging and it has become a part of every human activity.

The book covers the theoretical, practical and applied aspects of statistics as far as possible in a clear and exhaustive manner. Every effort has been made to give illustrations for lucidity. Every chapter in this book explains the principles through appropriate illustrations, and at the end of each chapter, enough exercises selected from different university papers have been given alongwith answers.

This book is meant for B.Com. and B.A. (Ecos.) degrees of Indian universities. Particularly it is complete in respect of the syllabus for B.Com. and B.A. (Ecos.) degrees (Semester and Non-semester) of Madurai Kamaraj University.

We are grateful to our fellow teachers who have given suggestions on the subject. We also thank M/s S. Chand and Company for their effort in bringing out the book in an elegant form and at a reasonable price, in time.

Valuable suggestions and criticisms from the readers will be appreciated and included in the subsequent editions.

Nagercoil (T.N.)

R.S.N. Pillai
Bagavathi

PREFACE TO THE SEVENTH REVISED EDITION

We are extremely happy to place before the readers the Seventh Revised and Enlarged Edition of Statistics Theory and practice. Many topics of this book have been re-written and restructured. Almost all the topics have been thoroughly gone through, presented lucidly and briefly, avoiding lengthy discussions but without sacrificing the theme of theories. The quality of the subject matter has been improved by consulting other books in this field. The main aim of this book is to facilitate easy understanding of the matter at one reading without any tediousness in grasping the theories and illustrations. Now, this book is in an elegant form, appearing in handy size. It carries all essential discussions, correct answers to the exercises and clear-cut meaning of the definitions in lucid language. This book is a good guide to those who prepare for examinations of Degree, Diploma etc.

We also take this opportunity to express out gratitude to the academic community-fellow professors and students for the unstinted support and encouragement to our books.

Errors which have come to our notice have been rectified. We believe that the blending of our academic and practical experience have made this book a useful guide to the students and teachers and the feed-back has been most positive. We have been engaged for quite a long time in the field of teaching, particularly in Statistics Theory and Practises. Hence we are intensely aware of the pulse of the students and their difficulties. Therefore, we have incorporated the maximum number of new problems selected at examinations of different Indian Universities and Professional Institutions to acquaint students with the recent trend of examinations. Our endeavour has been to make the book more student-oriented and learner-friendly. We have taken sufficient care that the book meets the needs of a variety of students.

The book contains 553 solved illustrations, 442 Objective Type Questions with their answers, 264 theoretical questions and 1,000 practical problems with detailed answers.

It is our earnest hope that the students and teachers will find the new, revised and enlarged edition more useful. Suggestions for improvement of this book are warmly welcomed.

We thank sincerely our Publishers, M/s S. Chand and Company Ltd., New Delhi, particularly, Mrs. Nirmala Gupta, Chairperson cum Managing Director, Mr. Navin Joshi, Vice President, Mr. R.S. Saxena, Chief Advisor for bringing out this book well in time and at reasonable price.

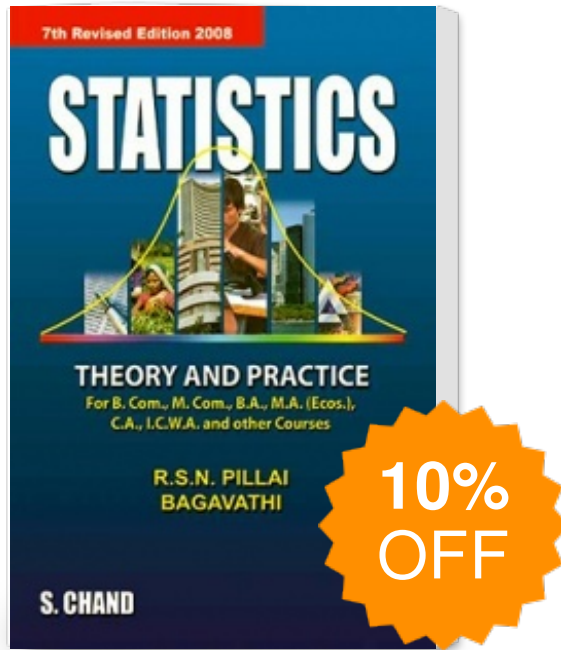
Authors

**Negercoil (Kanyakumari)
September 2007.**

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