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## Quantitative Methods in Business

### **Unit -1 : Probability**



- A probability is a number that reflects the chance or likelihood that a particular event will occur.
- Probability is the extent to which an event is likely to occur, measured by the ratio of the favourable cases to the whole number of cases possible.
- Probability theory, a branch of mathematics concerned with the analysis of random phenomena. The outcome of a random event cannot be determined before it occurs, but it may be any one of several possible outcomes. The actual outcome is considered to be determined by chance.







# **Basic Concepts in Probability**

- Random Experiment- A random experiment is an experiment or a process for which the outcome cannot be predicted with certainty.
- An operation which can produce some well-defined outcomes, is called an **experiment**. Each outcome is called an event. An **experiment** in which all possible outcomes are known and the exact outcome cannot be predicted in advance, is called a **random experiment**.



• Sample space - The sample space (denoted S) of a random experiment is the set of all possible outcomes.



- Exhaustive Events All Possible outcomes of an experiment are called exhaustive events
- Favourable Events The number of cases favourable to an event in a trail is the number of outcomes which entail the happening of the event.

**Example:** 

In Drawing a Card from a deck of cards, the number of favorable cases in getting a spade is 13.

- Equally likely events Two or more events are equally likely if each of them has an equal chance of happening.
- Mutually Exclusive Events Two events are said to be mutually exclusive if the occurrence of any one of them excludes the occurrence of the other in a single experiment. Example:

If a coin is tossed, the events Head(H) and Tail(T) are Mutually Exclusive

• Independent Events – Two or more events are independent if the occurrence of one does not affect the occurrence of the other.

#### **Example:**

If a Coin is thrown twice, the result of the second throw is not affected by the result of the first throw.

 Dependent Events – Two events are said to be dependent if the occurrence or non- occurrence of an event in a trial affects the occurrence of the other event in other trials.
Example:

If we draw 2 cards one after other a pack, we draw one card out of 52 cards in the first case. In the second case we draw one card out of 51 cards. Thus the two events are dependent.

Complementary Events – If A and B are mutually exclusive and Exhaustive events, then A is the complementary event of B and vice versa. Example:

When a die is thrown, occurrence of an even number and occurrence of an odd number are complementary Events.