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Meaning & Nature of Statistics.

Statistics is a branch of mathematics dealing with the collection, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of masses of numeric data. In simple words, we can say that statistics is a collection of qualitative data.

Nature of Statistics - Science or Art?

Science is a systematic body of knowledge which studies the cause and effect relationship. The primary features of science are:

- 1) It is a systematic study of any subject.
- 2) It takes a fact and tries to establish the relationship between

cause & effect

3) The laws of science are universal in nature.

Now, statistics could be considered as science in which we study:

- Numerous methods of collecting, editing, classifying, tabulating and presenting facts using graphs and diagrams.
 - Several ways of condensing data various social, political and economic problems.
- If science is knowledge, Art is action or the actual application of science. While science teaches us to know, Art teaches us to do.
- Art is a group of actions which solve a problem.
 - It examines the merit & demerits of the facts.

Thus, we can define Statistics as an art of applying the science of scientific methods.