

PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMICS

B.Com Hons Part-I

TOPIC -

FACTORS AFFECTING
DEMAND

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* Factors Affecting Demand :-

Goods are demanded because they have capacity to satisfy human wants. A rational consumer will make demand for a commodity only when it provides utility to him.

The quantity of each commodity that is demanded by an individual household is affected by five main variables. A demand function is expressed in following equation -

$$D_x = f(P_x, P_r, Y, T)$$

where,

D_x = Demand of commodity X

P_x = Price of X commodity

P_r = Price of related commodities

Y = The income of the household.

T = The taste and preference of the household.

• Factors affecting Demand -

(1) Utility of the goods - utility means the power to satisfy human wants. The commodities,

having greater utility will be demanded more.

② Income level - A rise in people's income, will cause an increase in demand for goods and services. while a fall in incomes will cause demand to fall.

③ Price of Related Goods - Related goods may be in the form of substitutes and complements:

(a) Substitute Goods - Substitute goods are those goods which may be used in the place of each other. Eg. :- tea and coffee, sugar and gur.

(b) Complements Goods - Complements goods are those goods which are jointly demanded to satisfy a particular want. Eg. :- Car and petrol, bread and butter.

④ Tastes and fashion - The amount demanded of a commodity also depends upon consumer's tastes, preferences, fashion etc.

⑤ Price of the goods - Price is the most important factor. Demand for a commodity increases when its price falls and vice-versa.