

## COBB - DOUGLAS PRODUCTION FUNCTION

- \* The Cobb-Douglas production function is based on the empirical study of the American manufacturing industry made by 'Paul H. Douglas and C.W. Cobb.
- \* The function says that labour contributes about three-quarters ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) of increase in manufacturing production and capital the remaining one quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ).
- \* The Cobb-Douglas production function is expressed by 
$$P = bL^{\alpha}C^{1-\alpha}$$

Where,

$P$  = output / production.

$b, \alpha$  and  $1-\alpha$  = positive parameters.

$L$  = Labour

$C$  = Capital.

$\alpha$  = part of labour contributed in production.

$1-\alpha$  = part of capital used in production.

The equation tells that the output directly depends on Labour and capital.

### \* ASSUMPTIONS OF C-D PRODUCTION FUNCTION.

- (i) There are only two inputs - Labour and capital.
- (ii) Productivity of Labour is given and constant.
- (iii) Productivity of capital goods is given and constant.
- (iv) It is linearly Homogeneous production function, if quantity of L and C are increased by 'm' fold. Then the increased input will be

$$\begin{aligned} p &= b L^{\alpha} c^{1-\alpha} \\ &= b (mL)^{\alpha} (mc)^{1-\alpha} \\ &= m b L^{\alpha} c^{1-\alpha} \\ &= m.p. \end{aligned}$$

- (v) Profit time or over time is not included in this function.