THEORY OF DEMAND (Continued)

Determinants of Demand

- **3.** <u>Income of the Consumer</u> (I): There is a <u>direct (or positive)</u> relationship between the quantity demanded of a commodity and consumer income, <u>ceteris paribus (c.p.)</u>. When consumer income increases (c.p.), the demand for almost all commodities increases.
- **4.** Weather Conditions (W): Weather can also affect the demand for a commodity. E.g. During summer, the demand for commodities, such as AC and Cooler increases. Similarly, during winter, the demand for Room Heaters and Geysers increases.

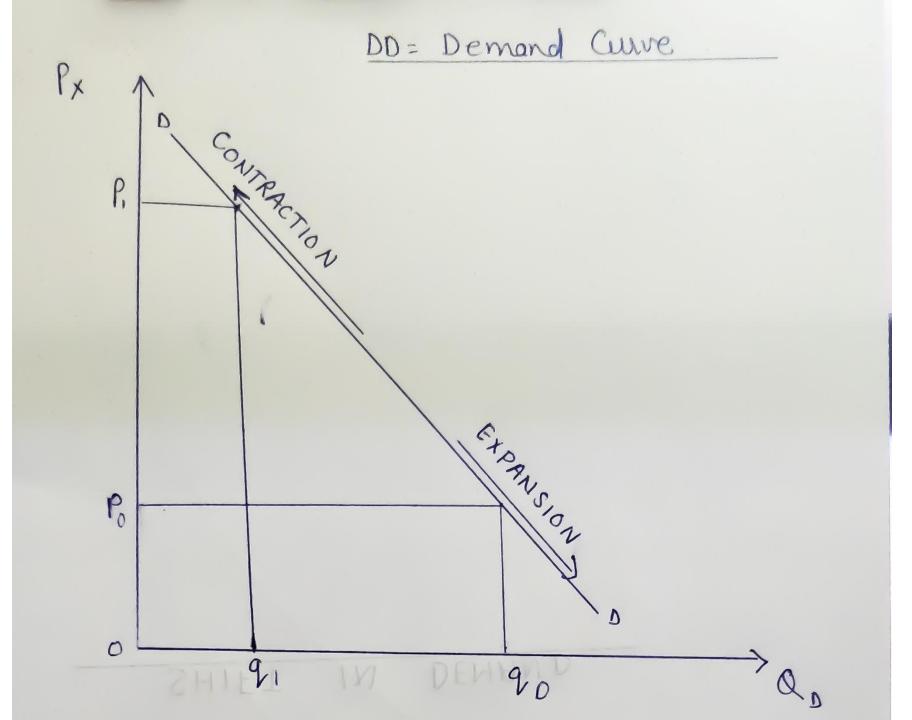
- 5. <u>Taste and Preferences</u> (T): It is observed that a person buys more of a commodity, which s/he likes more. Thus, stronger the taste, more of the commodity s/he will buy.
- 6. Consumer's Expectations, regarding 'Future Price' of the Commodity (E): If a consumer expects a fall (rise) in the price of a commodity in the near future, s/he may decrease (increase) her/his present consumption of that commodity.

Note: All of the above factors can affect an individual consumer's demand for a given commodity. In addition, the <u>size of the</u> <u>population</u> (P) may affect the <u>market demand</u> for a given commodity. In general, as the population grows, the market demand for a given commodity tends to increase.

Demand Function: Demand is a function of all its determinants. $Q_D = f(P_X, P_Y, I, W, T, E)$

Change in Demand

- (i) 'Expansion' and 'Contraction' of Demand:
- When a person <u>buys 'more quantity'</u> of a given commodity at a <u>lower price</u>, c.p., then the <u>rise</u> in demand is called <u>'Expansion of Demand'</u>. Here, price of the commodity is the only variable. Expansion of demand is indicated by a <u>'downward movement' along the demand curve</u>.
- When a person <u>buys 'less quantity'</u> of a given commodity at a <u>higher price</u>, c.p., then the <u>fall</u> in demand is called <u>'Contraction of Demand'</u>. Here, price of the commodity is the only variable. Contraction of demand is indicated by an 'upward movement' along the demand curve.



(ii) 'Increase' and 'Decrease' of Demand:

- When a person <u>buys 'more quantity'</u> of a given commodity at a <u>constant price</u>, then it is called <u>'Increase in Demand'</u>. Here, <u>price</u> of the commodity is <u>constant</u> and the <u>other determinants are variable</u>. Increase in demand is indicated by a '<u>rightward' shift in the demand curve</u>.
- When a person <u>buys 'less quantity'</u> of a given commodity at a <u>constant price</u>, then it is called <u>'Decrease in Demand'</u>. Here, <u>price</u> of the commodity is <u>constant</u> and the <u>other determinants are variable</u>. Decrease in demand is indicated by a '<u>leftward' shift</u> in the demand curve.

