

## \* Transportation Problem of Linear Programming :

In the problem of transportation of goods, the objective is to determine the optimum amount of goods to be transported from each warehouse to each of the retail stores in order to minimize the total costs of transportation.

Let us consider a simple transportation problem where three retail shops transport goods from each of the two warehouses. It is assumed that the first warehouse (WH-1) has maximum capacity of storing  $w_1$  tonnes while second warehouse (WH-2) has the maximum capacity of  $w_2$  tonnes. On the other hand, each of the retail shops has a minimum daily requirement. Let us assume that the minimum daily requirement of three retail shops, namely RS-1, RS-2, and RS-3 are  $r_1$ ,  $r_2$ ,  $r_3$  respectively.

The cost of transportation/unit of output from each warehouse to each of the retail shops are also different. Let  $C_{11}$ ,  $C_{12}$  and  $C_{13}$  represent the unit cost of transportation from first warehouse to each of the three retail shops respectively.



Similarly,  $C_{21}$ ,  $C_{22}$  and  $C_{23}$  represent the unit cost of transportation of goods from second warehouse to each retail shops respectively.

We also assume that  $x_{11}$ ,

$x_{12}$  and  $x_{13}$  are the amount of goods transported from first warehouse to three retail shops respectively. Similarly,  $x_{21}$ ,  $x_{22}$  and  $x_{23}$  are the amount of goods transported from second warehouse to the each of the three retail shops. Mathematically, we state the above problem of goods transportation as

Minimize the cost of transport

$$C = C_{11}x_{11} + C_{12}x_{12} + C_{13}x_{13} + C_{21}x_{21} + C_{22}x_{22} + C_{23}x_{23}$$

Subject to

$$x_{11} + x_{12} + x_{13} \leq w_1$$

$$x_{21} + x_{22} + x_{23} \leq w_2$$

$$x_{11} + x_{21} \geq r_1$$

$$x_{12} + x_{22} \geq r_2$$

$$x_{13} + x_{23} \geq r_3$$

$$x_{11}, x_{12}, x_{13}, x_{21}, x_{22}, x_{23} \geq 0$$