

Meaning of Estimating

Definition

Estimating is the scientific process of calculating the quantities and predicting the probable cost of various items required for a construction work.

- Prepared by calculating quantities from drawings (plans, elevations, sections).
- Requires thorough knowledge of current market rates and specifications.
- Actual cost is known only after completion, but estimate gives a very close prediction.

Purpose of Estimating

- **Financial Arrangement:** To know the probable cost and arrange funds.
- **Project Feasibility:** To determine if the project is economically viable.
- **Tendering:** Necessary for inviting tenders and arranging contracts.
- **Material & Labor Planning:** Helps in forecasting material and labor requirements.
- **Expenditure Control:** Acts as a baseline to monitor and control project spending.

Administrative Approval vs Technical Sanction

Administrative Approval	Technical Sanction
Formal acceptance by admin dept.	Sanction of detailed estimate by Engg dept.
Focuses on necessity and preliminary cost.	Focuses on structural soundness and detailed cost.
First step in project approval.	Done after administrative approval.
Based on preliminary estimate.	Based on detailed estimate.

Workflow of a Project

