

## 9. SURDS AND INDICES

### I IMPORTANT FACTS AND FORMULAE I

#### 1. LAWS OF INDICES:

- (i)  $a^m \times a^n = a^{m+n}$
- (ii)  $a^m / a^n = a^{m-n}$
- (iii)  $(a^m)^n = a^{mn}$
- (iv)  $(ab)^n = a^n b^n$
- (v)  $(a/b)^n = (a^n / b^n)$
- (vi)  $a^0 = 1$

**2. SURDS:** Let  $a$  be a rational number and  $n$  be a positive integer such that  $a^{1/n} = \sqrt[n]{a}$  is irrational. Then  $\sqrt[n]{a}$  is called a surd of order  $n$ .

#### 3. LAWS OF SURDS:

- (i)  $\sqrt[n]{a} = a^{1/n}$
- (ii)  $\sqrt[n]{ab} = \sqrt[n]{a} \times \sqrt[n]{b}$
- (iii)  $\sqrt[n]{a/b} = \sqrt[n]{a} / \sqrt[n]{b}$
- (iv)  $(\sqrt[n]{a})^n = a$
- (v)  $\sqrt[m]{(\sqrt[n]{a})} = \sqrt[mn]{a}$
- (vi)  $(\sqrt[n]{a})^m = \sqrt[n]{a^m}$