MATHEMATICS
EXEMPLAR PROBLEMS

Class XII

विद्यया ऽमृतमश्नुते
एन सी ई आर टी
NCERT

राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद्
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FOREWORD

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF) – 2005 initiated a new phase of development of syllabi and textbooks for all stages of school education. Conscious effort has been made to discourage rote learning and to diffuse sharp boundaries between different subject areas. This is well in tune with the NPE – 1986 and *Learning Without Burden-1993* that recommend child centred system of education. The textbooks for Classes IX and XI were released in 2006 and for Classes X and XII in 2007. Overall the books have been well received by students and teachers.

NCF–2005 notes that treating the prescribed textbooks as the sole basis of examination is one of the key reasons why other resources and sites of learning are ignored. It further reiterates that the methods used for teaching and evaluation will also determine how effective these textbooks proves for making children's life at school a happy experience, rather than source of stress or boredom. It calls for reform in examination system currently prevailing in the country.

The position papers of the National Focus Groups on *Teaching of Science*, *Teaching of Mathematics and Examination Reform* envisage that the mathematics question papers, set in annual examinations conducted by the various Boards do not really assess genuine understanding of the subjects. The quality of question papers is often not up to the mark. They usually seek mere information based on rote memorization, and fail to test higher-order skills like reasoning and analysis, let along lateral thinking, creativity, and judgment. Good unconventional questions, challenging problems and experiment-based problems rarely find a place in question papers. In order to address to the issue, and also to provide additional learning material, the Department of Education in Science and Mathematics (DESM) has made an attempt to develop resource book of exemplar problems in different subjects at secondary and higher-secondary stages. Each resource book contains different types of questions of varying difficulty level. Some questions would require the students to apply simultaneously understanding of more than one chapters/units. These problems are *not* meant to serve merely as question bank for examinations but are primarily meant to improve the quality of teaching/learning process in schools. It is expected that these problems would encourage teachers to design quality questions on their own. Students and teachers should always keep in mind that examination and assessment should test

comprehension, information recall, analytical thinking and problem-solving ability, creativity and speculative ability.

A team of experts and teachers with an understanding of the subject and a proper role of examination worked hard to accomplish this task. The material was discussed, edited and finally included in this source book.

NCERT will welcome suggestions from students, teachers and parents which would help us to further improve the quality of material in subsequent editions.

Professor Yash Pal
Chairperson
National Steering Committee
National Council of Educational
Research and Training

New Delhi
21 May 2008

PREFACE

The Department of Education in Science and Mathematics (DESM), National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT), initiated the development of 'Exemplar Problems' in science and mathematics for secondary and higher secondary stages after completing the preparation of textbooks based on National Curriculum Framework–2005.

The main objective of the book on 'Exemplar Problems in Mathematics' is to provide the teachers and students a large number of quality problems with varying cognitive levels to facilitate teaching learning of concepts in mathematics that are presented through the textbook for Class XII. It is envisaged that the problems included in this volume would help the teachers to design tasks to assess effectiveness of their teaching and to know about the achievement of their students besides facilitating preparation of balanced question papers for unit and terminal tests. The feedback based on the analysis of students' responses may help the teachers in further improving the quality of classroom instructions. In addition, the problems given in this book are also expected to help the teachers to perceive the basic characteristics of good quality questions and motivate them to frame similar questions on their own. Students can benefit themselves by attempting the exercises given in the book for self assessment and also in mastering the basic techniques of problem solving. Some of the questions given in the book are expected to challenge the understanding of the concepts of mathematics of the students and their ability to applying them in novel situations.

The problems included in this book were prepared through a series of workshops organised by the DESM for their development and refinement involving practicing teachers, subject experts from universities and institutes of higher learning, and the members of the mathematics group of the DESM whose names appear separately. We gratefully acknowledge their efforts and thank them for their valuable contribution in our endeavour to provide good quality instructional material for the school system.

I express my gratitude to Professor Krishna Kumar, *Director* and Professor G. Ravindra, *Joint Director*, NCERT for their valuable motivation and guidiance from time to time. Special thanks are also due to Dr. V. P. Singh, *Reader* in Mathematics, DESM for coordinating the programme, taking pains in editing and refinement of problems and for making the manuscript pressworthy.

We look forward to feedback from students, teachers and parents for further improvement of the contents of this book.

Hukum Singh

Professor and Head

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