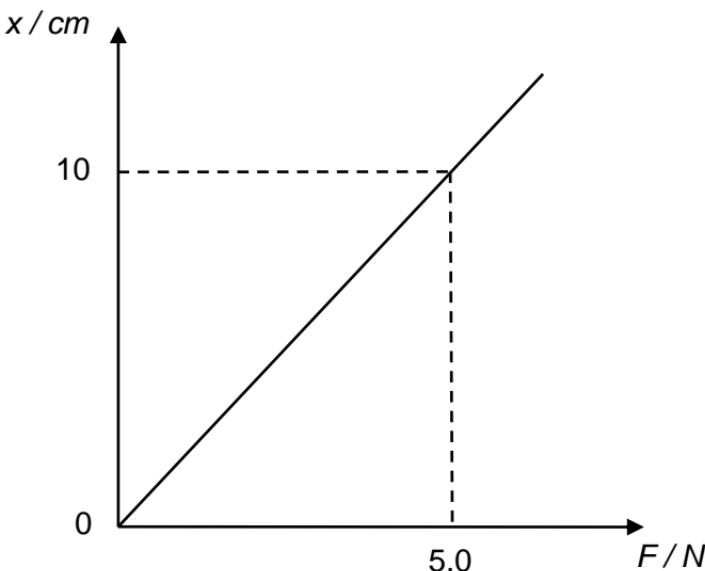


8 The variation of the extension x of a light spring with the force F applied is shown below.



Slotted masses with a total weight of 3.0 N were initially hung on the spring.

What is the decrease in the elastic potential energy stored in the spring when a slotted mass weighing 0.5 N is removed from the system?

A 0.013 J

B 0.015 J

C 0.028 J

D 0.056 J