



CLASS X
PHYSICS
CHAPTER 11 – LIGHT

NOTES

- Light** always travels in straight line. This property is known as **rectilinear propagation of light**.
- When the light (called incident ray) strikes a polished surface, it is bounced back in the same medium (forming reflected ray). This phenomenon is called **reflection of light**.
- Types of images- i) **Virtual image** - It is formed by the intersection of actual rays when produced. It is always erect and cannot be focussed on the screen.
ii) **Real image** - It is formed by the intersection of actual rays. It is always inverted and can be focussed on the screen.
- Nature of image formed by a plane mirror:** It is formed behind the mirror. It is **virtual, erect, laterally inverted** and of same size as object.
- Mirror formula :** $\frac{1}{v} + \frac{1}{u} = \frac{1}{f}$
- Magnification (for mirror) :** $M = \frac{\text{height of the image (hi)}}{\text{height of the object (ho)}} = - \frac{v}{u}$
- When a ray of light passes from one medium to another medium, it bends. This phenomenon is called **refraction of light**.
- Refraction of light is caused by the change in the speed of light as it passes from one medium to another.
- Total internal reflection:** When a ray of light enters a rarer medium from a denser medium with an angle of incidence greater than the critical angle, it is reflected back to the denser medium. This phenomenon is called total internal reflection.
- Lens formula :** $\frac{1}{v} - \frac{1}{u} = \frac{1}{f}$
- Magnification (for lens) :** $m = \frac{\text{height of the image (hi)}}{\text{height of the object (ho)}} = \frac{v}{u}$
- Splitting of composite light into its constituent colours is known as **dispersion of light**.
- Rainbow is formed by dispersion, internal reflection and refraction of sunlight.**
