

PHYSICS

PART – I

TEXTBOOK FOR CLASS XII



12089

© NCERT
not to be republished

© NCERT
not to be republished

PHYSICS

PART – I

TEXTBOOK FOR CLASS XII

© NCERT
not to be republished



राष्ट्रीय शैक्षिक अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद्
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

ISBN 81-7450-631-4

First Edition

December 2006 Pausa 1928

Reprinted

December 2007 Agrahayana 1929

December 2008 Pausa 1930

December 2009 Pausa 1931

January 2011 Pausa 1932

January 2012 Magha 1933

November 2012 Kartika 1934

November 2013 Kartika 1935

December 2014 Pausa 1936

December 2015 Pausa 1937

February 2017 Magha 1938

January 2018 Magha 1939

January 2019 Pausa 1940

October 2019 Ashwina 1941

PD 450T BS

© **National Council of Educational
Research and Training, 2006**

₹ **195.00**

Printed on 80 GSM paper with NCERT
watermark

Published at the Publication Division by the
Secretary, National Council of Educational
Research and Training, Sri Aurobindo Marg,
New Delhi 110 016 and printed at Ana Print
O Grafix Pvt. Ltd., 347-K, Udyog Kendra
Extn.-II, Sector Ecotech-III, Greater Noida-
201 306

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

- No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission of the publisher.
- This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade, be lent, re-sold, hired out or otherwise disposed of without the publisher's consent, in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published.
- The correct price of this publication is the price printed on this page. Any revised price indicated by a rubber stamp or by a sticker or by any other means is incorrect and should be unacceptable.

**OFFICES OF THE PUBLICATION
DIVISION, NCERT**

NCERT Campus
Sri Aurobindo Marg
New Delhi 110 016 Phone : 011-26562708

108, 100 Feet Road
Hosdakere Halli Extension
Banashankari III Stage
Bengaluru 560 085 Phone : 080-26725740

Navjivan Trust Building
P.O.Navjivan
Ahmedabad 380 014 Phone : 079-27541446

CWC Campus
Opp. Dhankal Bus Stop
Panihati
Kolkata 700 114 Phone : 033-25530454

CWC Complex
Maligaon
Guwahati 781 021 Phone : 0361-2674869

Publication Team

Head, Publication Division : Anup Kumar Rajput
Chief Editor : Shveta Uppal
Chief Production Officer : Arun Chitkara
Chief Business Manager : Bibash Kumar Das
Assistant Editor : R.N. Bhardwaj
Production Assistant : Mukesh Gaur

Cover, Layout and Illustrations
Shweta Rao

FOREWORD

The National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 recommends that children's life at school must be linked to their life outside the school. This principle marks a departure from the legacy of bookish learning which continues to shape our system and causes a gap between the school, home and community. The syllabi and textbooks developed on the basis of NCF signify an attempt to implement this basic idea. They also attempt to discourage rote learning and the maintenance of sharp boundaries between different subject areas. We hope these measures will take us significantly further in the direction of a child-centred system of education outlined in the National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986.

The success of this effort depends on the steps that school principals and teachers will take to encourage children to reflect on their own learning and to pursue imaginative activities and questions. We must recognise that, given space, time and freedom, children generate new knowledge by engaging with the information passed on to them by adults. Treating the prescribed textbook as the sole basis of examination is one of the key reasons why other resources and sites of learning are ignored. Inculcating creativity and initiative is possible if we perceive and treat children as participants in learning, not as receivers of a fixed body of knowledge.

These aims imply considerable change in school routines and mode of functioning. Flexibility in the daily time-table is as necessary as rigour in implementing the annual calendar so that the required number of teaching days are actually devoted to teaching. The methods used for teaching and evaluation will also determine how effective this textbook proves for making children's life at school a happy experience, rather than a source of stress or boredom. Syllabus designers have tried to address the problem of curricular burden by restructuring and reorienting knowledge at different stages with greater consideration for child psychology and the time available for teaching. The textbook attempts to enhance this endeavour by giving higher priority and space to opportunities for contemplation and wondering, discussion in small groups, and activities requiring hands-on experience.

The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) appreciates the hard work done by the textbook development committee responsible for this book. We wish to thank the Chairperson of the advisory group in science and mathematics, Professor J.V. Narlikar and the Chief Advisor for this book, Professor A.W. Joshi for guiding the work of this committee. Several teachers contributed to the development of this textbook; we are grateful to their principals for making this possible. We are indebted to the institutions and organisations which have generously permitted us to draw upon their resources, material and personnel. We are especially grateful to the members of the National Monitoring Committee, appointed by the Department of Secondary and Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development under the Chairpersonship of Professor Mrinal Miri and Professor G.P. Deshpande, for their valuable time and contribution. As an organisation committed to systemic reform and continuous improvement in the quality of its products, NCERT welcomes comments and suggestions which will enable us to undertake further revision and refinement.

New Delhi
20 December 2006

Director
National Council of Educational
Research and Training

THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

PREAMBLE

WE, THE PEOPLE OF INDIA, having solemnly resolved to constitute India into a ¹**[SOVEREIGN SOCIALIST SECULAR DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC]** and to secure to all its citizens :

JUSTICE, social, economic and political;

LIBERTY of thought, expression, belief, faith and worship;

EQUALITY of status and of opportunity; and to promote among them all

FRATERNITY assuring the dignity of the individual and the ²[unity and integrity of the Nation];

IN OUR CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY this twenty-sixth day of November, 1949 do **HEREBY ADOPT, ENACT AND GIVE TO OURSELVES THIS CONSTITUTION.**

1. Subs. by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, Sec.2, for "Sovereign Democratic Republic" (w.e.f. 3.1.1977)
2. Subs. by the Constitution (Forty-second Amendment) Act, 1976, Sec.2, for "Unity of the Nation" (w.e.f. 3.1.1977)

TEXTBOOK DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

CHAIRPERSON, ADVISORY GROUP FOR TEXTBOOKS IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

J.V. Narlikar, *Emeritus Professor*, Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Ganeshkhind, Pune University Campus, Pune

CHIEF ADVISOR

A.W. Joshi, Honorary Visiting Scientist, National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), Pune University Campus, Pune (Formerly *Professor* at Department of Physics, University of Pune)

MEMBERS

A.K. Ghatak, *Emeritus Professor*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi

Alika Khare, *Professor*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati

Anjali Kshirsagar, *Reader*, Department of Physics, University of Pune, Pune

Anuradha Mathur, *PGT*, Modern School, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi

Atul Mody, *Lecturer (S.G.)*, VES College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Mumbai

B.K. Sharma, *Professor*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi

Chitra Goel, *PGT*, Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya, Tyagraj Nagar, New Delhi

Gagan Gupta, *Reader*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi

H.C. Pradhan, *Professor*, Homi Bhabha Centre of Science Education (TIFR), Mumbai

N. Panchapakesan, *Professor (Retd.)*, Department of Physics and Astrophysics, University of Delhi, Delhi

R. Joshi, *Lecturer (S.G.)*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi

S.K. Dash, *Reader*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi

S. Rai Choudhary, *Professor*, Department of Physics and Astrophysics, University of Delhi, Delhi

S.K. Upadhyay, *PGT*, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Muzaffar Nagar

S.N. Prabhakara, *PGT*, DM School, Regional Institute of Education (NCERT), Mysore

V.H. Raybagkar, *Reader*, Nowrosjee Wadia College, Pune

Vishwajeet Kulkarni, *Teacher (Grade I)*, Higher Secondary Section, Smt. Parvatibai Chowgule College, Margao, Goa

MEMBER-COORDINATOR

V.P. Srivastava, *Reader*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi

Constitution of India

Part IV A (Article 51 A)

Fundamental Duties

It shall be the duty of every citizen of India —

- (a) to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem;
- (b) to cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;
- (c) to uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;
- (d) to defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;
- (e) to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;
- (f) to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture;
- (g) to protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, wildlife and to have compassion for living creatures;
- (h) to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;
- (i) to safeguard public property and to abjure violence;
- (j) to strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement;
- * (k) who is a parent or guardian, to provide opportunities for education to his child or, as the case may be, ward between the age of six and fourteen years.

Note: The Article 51A containing Fundamental Duties was inserted by the Constitution (42nd Amendment) Act, 1976 (with effect from 3 January 1977).

* (k) was inserted by the Constitution (86th Amendment) Act, 2002 (with effect from 1 April 2010).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The National Council of Educational Research and Training acknowledges the valuable contribution of the individuals and organisations involved in the development of Physics Textbook for Class XII. The Council also acknowledges the valuable contribution of the following academics for reviewing and refining the manuscripts of this book:

Anu Venugopalan, *Lecturer*, School of Basic and Applied Sciences, GGSIP University, Delhi; A.K. Das, *PGT*, St. Xavier's Senior Secondary School, Delhi; Bharati Kukkal, *PGT*, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pushp Vihar, New Delhi; D.A. Desai, *Lecturer (Retd.)*, Ruparel College, Mumbai; Devendra Kumar, *PGT*, Rajkiya Pratibha Vikas Vidyalaya, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi; I.K. Gogia, *PGT*, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Gole Market, New Delhi; K.C. Sharma, *Reader*, Regional Institute of Education (NCERT), Ajmer; M.K. Nandy, *Associate Professor*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati; M.N. Bapat, *Reader*, Regional Institute of Education (NCERT), Mysuru; R. Bhattacharjee, *Assistant Professor*, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati; R.S. Das, *Vice-Principal (Retd.)*, Balwant Ray Mehta Senior Secondary School, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi; Sangeeta D. Gadre, *Reader*, Kirori Mal College, Delhi; Suresh Kumar, *PGT*, Delhi Public School, Dwarka, New Delhi; Sushma Jaireth, *Reader*, Department of Women's Studies, NCERT, New Delhi; Shyama Rath, *Reader*, Department of Physics and Astrophysics, University of Delhi, Delhi; Yashu Kumar, *PGT*, Kulachi Hans Raj Model School, Ashok Vihar, Delhi.

The Council also gratefully acknowledges the valuable contribution of the following academics for the editing and finalisation of this book: B.B. Tripathi, *Professor (Retd.)*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; Dipan K. Ghosh, *Professor*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai; Dipanjan Mitra, *Scientist*, National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (TIFR), Pune; G.K. Mehta, *Raja Ramanna Fellow*, Inter-University Accelerator Centre, New Delhi; G.S. Visweswaran, *Professor*, Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; H.C. Kandpal, *Head*, Optical Radiation Standards, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi; H.S. Mani, *Raja Ramanna Fellow*, Institute of Mathematical Sciences, Chennai; K. Thyagarajan, *Professor*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; P.C. Vinod Kumar, *Professor*, Department of Physics, Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat; S. Annapoorni, *Professor*, Department of Physics and Astrophysics, University of Delhi, Delhi; S.C. Dutta Roy, *Emeritus Professor*, Department of Electrical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; S.D. Joglekar, *Professor*, Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur; and V. Sundara Raja, *Professor*, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

The Council also acknowledges the valuable contributions of the following academics for refining the text in 2017: A.K. Srivastava, *Assistant Professor*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi; Arnab Sen, *Assistant Professor*, NERIE, Shillong; L.S. Chauhan, *Assistant Professor*, RIE, Bhopal; O.N. Awasthi, *Professor (Retd.)*, RIE, Bhopal; Rachna Garg, *Professor*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi; Raman Namboodiri, *Assistant Professor*, RIE, Mysuru; R.R. Koireng, *Assistant Professor*, DCS, NCERT, New Delhi; Shashi Prabha, *Professor*, DESM, NCERT, New Delhi; and S.V. Sharma, *Professor*, RIE, Ajmer.

Special thanks are due to Hukum Singh, *Professor and Head*, DESM, NCERT for his support.

The Council also acknowledges the support provided by the APC office and the administrative staff of the DESM; Deepak Kapoor, *Incharge*, Computer Station; Inder Kumar, *DTP Operator*; Mohd. Qamar Tabrez, *Copy Editor*; Ashima Srivastava, *Proof Reader* in shaping this book.

The contributions of the Publication Department in bringing out this book are also duly acknowledged.

CONSTITUTION OF INDIA

Part III (Articles 12 – 35)

(Subject to certain conditions, some exceptions
and reasonable restrictions)

guarantees these

Fundamental Rights

Right to Equality

- before law and equal protection of laws;
- irrespective of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth;
- of opportunity in public employment;
- by abolition of untouchability and titles.

Right to Freedom

- of expression, assembly, association, movement, residence and profession;
- of certain protections in respect of conviction for offences;
- of protection of life and personal liberty;
- of free and compulsory education for children between the age of six and fourteen years;
- of protection against arrest and detention in certain cases.

Right against Exploitation

- for prohibition of traffic in human beings and forced labour;
- for prohibition of employment of children in hazardous jobs.

Right to Freedom of Religion

- freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion;
- freedom to manage religious affairs;
- freedom as to payment of taxes for promotion of any particular religion;
- freedom as to attendance at religious instruction or religious worship in educational institutions wholly maintained by the State.

Cultural and Educational Rights

- for protection of interests of minorities to conserve their language, script and culture;
- for minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice.

Right to Constitutional Remedies

- by issuance of directions or orders or writs by the Supreme Court and High Courts for enforcement of these Fundamental Rights.



PREFACE

It gives me pleasure to place this book in the hands of the students, teachers and the public at large (whose role cannot be overlooked). It is a natural sequel to the Class XI textbook which was brought out in 2006. This book is also a trimmed version of the textbooks which existed so far. The chapter on thermal and chemical effects of current has been cut out. This topic has also been dropped from the CBSE syllabus. Similarly, the chapter on communications has been substantially curtailed. It has been rewritten in an easily comprehensible form.

Although most other chapters have been based on the earlier versions, several parts and sections in them have been rewritten. The Development Team has been guided by the feedback received from innumerable teachers across the country.

In producing these books, Class XI as well as Class XII, there has been a basic change of emphasis. Both the books present physics to students without assuming that they would pursue this subject beyond the higher secondary level. This new view has been prompted by the various observations and suggestions made in the National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005. Similarly, in today's educational scenario where students can opt for various combinations of subjects, we cannot assume that a physics student is also studying mathematics. Therefore, physics has to be presented, so to say, in a standalone form.

As in Class XI textbook, some interesting box items have been inserted in many chapters. They are not meant for teaching or examinations. Their purpose is to catch the attention of the reader, to show some applications in daily life or in other areas of science and technology, to suggest a simple experiment, to show connection of concepts in different areas of physics, and in general, to break the monotony and enliven the book.

Features like Summary, Points to Ponder, Exercises and Additional Exercises at the end of each chapter, and Examples have been retained. Several concept-based Exercises have been transferred from end-of-chapter Exercises to Examples with Solutions in the text. It is hoped that this will make the concepts discussed in the chapter more comprehensible. Several new examples and exercises have been added. Students wishing to pursue physics further would find Points to Ponder and Additional Exercises very useful and thoughtful. To provide *resources beyond the textbook* and to encourage *eLearning*, each chapter has been provided with some relevant website addresses under the title *ePhysics*. These sites provide additional material on specific topics and also provide learners with opportunities for interactive demonstrations/experiments.

The intricate concepts of physics must be understood, comprehended and appreciated. Students must learn to ask questions like 'why', 'how', 'how do we know it'. They will find almost always that the question 'why' has no answer within the domain of physics and science in general. But that itself is a learning experience, is it not? On the other hand, the question 'how' has been reasonably well answered by physicists in the case of most natural phenomena. In fact, with the understanding of how things happen, it has been possible to make use of many phenomena to create technological applications for the use of humans.

For example, consider statements in a book, like 'A negatively charged electron is attracted by the positively charged plate', or 'In this experiment, light (or electron) behaves like a wave'. You will realise that it is not possible to answer 'why'. This question belongs to the domain of philosophy or metaphysics. But we can answer 'how', we can find the force acting, we can find

the wavelength of the photon (or electron), we can determine how things behave under different conditions, and we can develop instruments which will use these phenomena to our advantage.

It has been a pleasure to work for these books at the higher secondary level, along with a team of members. The Textbook Development Team, Review Team and Editing Teams involved college and university teachers, teachers from Indian Institutes of Technology, scientists from national institutes and laboratories, as well as, higher secondary teachers. The feedback and critical look provided by higher secondary teachers in the various teams are highly laudable. Most box items were generated by members of one or the other team, but three of them were generated by friends and well-wishers not part of any team. We are thankful to Dr P.N. Sen of Pune, Professor Roopmanjari Ghosh of Delhi and Dr Rajesh B Khaparde of Mumbai for allowing us to use their box items, respectively, in Chapters 3, 4 (Part I) and 9 (Part II). We are thankful to the members of the review and editing workshops to discuss and refine the first draft of the textbook. We also express our gratitude to Prof. Krishna Kumar, *Director*, NCERT, for entrusting us with the task of presenting this textbook as a part of the national effort for improving science education. I also thank Prof. G. Ravindra, *Joint Director*, NCERT, for his help from time-to-time. Prof. Hukum Singh, *Head*, Department of Education in Science and Mathematics, NCERT, was always willing to help us in our endeavour in every possible way.

We welcome suggestions and comments from our valued users, especially students and teachers. We wish our young readers a happy journey into the exciting realm of physics.

A. W. JOSHI
Chief Advisor
Textbook Development Committee

CONTENTS

FOREWORD	<i>v</i>
PREFACE	<i>xi</i>
CHAPTER ONE	
ELECTRIC CHARGES AND FIELDS	
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Electric Charge	1
1.3 Conductors and Insulators	5
1.4 Charging by Induction	6
1.5 Basic Properties of Electric Charge	8
1.6 Coulomb's Law	10
1.7 Forces between Multiple Charges	15
1.8 Electric Field	18
1.9 Electric Field Lines	23
1.10 Electric Flux	25
1.11 Electric Dipole	27
1.12 Dipole in a Uniform External Field	31
1.13 Continuous Charge Distribution	32
1.14 Gauss's Law	33
1.15 Applications of Gauss's Law	37
CHAPTER TWO	
ELECTROSTATIC POTENTIAL AND CAPACITANCE	
2.1 Introduction	51
2.2 Electrostatic Potential	53
2.3 Potential due to a Point Charge	54
2.4 Potential due to an Electric Dipole	55
2.5 Potential due to a System of Charges	57
2.6 Equipotential Surfaces	60
2.7 Potential Energy of a System of Charges	61
2.8 Potential Energy in an External Field	64
2.9 Electrostatics of Conductors	67
2.10 Dielectrics and Polarisation	71
2.11 Capacitors and Capacitance	73
2.12 The Parallel Plate Capacitor	74
2.13 Effect of Dielectric on Capacitance	75

2.14	Combination of Capacitors	78
2.15	Energy Stored in a Capacitor	80

CHAPTER THREE

CURRENT ELECTRICITY

3.1	Introduction	93
3.2	Electric Current	93
3.3	Electric Currents in Conductors	94
3.4	Ohm's law	95
3.5	Drift of Electrons and the Origin of Resistivity	97
3.6	Limitations of Ohm's Law	101
3.7	Resistivity of Various Materials	101
3.8	Temperature Dependence of Resistivity	103
3.9	Electrical Energy, Power	105
3.10	Combination of Resistors — Series and Parallel	107
3.11	Cells, emf, Internal Resistance	110
3.12	Cells in Series and in Parallel	113
3.13	Kirchhoff's Rules	115
3.14	Wheatstone Bridge	118
3.15	Meter Bridge	120
3.16	Potentiometer	122

CHAPTER FOUR

MOVING CHARGES AND MAGNETISM

4.1	Introduction	132
4.2	Magnetic Force	133
4.3	Motion in a Magnetic Field	137
4.4	Motion in Combined Electric and Magnetic Fields	140
4.5	Magnetic Field due to a Current Element, Biot-Savart Law	143
4.6	Magnetic Field on the Axis of a Circular Current Loop	145
4.7	Ampere's Circuital Law	147
4.8	The Solenoid and the Toroid	150
4.9	Force between Two Parallel Currents, the Ampere	154
4.10	Torque on Current Loop, Magnetic Dipole	157
4.11	The Moving Coil Galvanometer	163

CHAPTER FIVE

MAGNETISM AND MATTER

5.1	Introduction	173
5.2	The Bar Magnet	174
5.3	Magnetism and Gauss's Law	181

5.4	The Earth's Magnetism	185
5.5	Magnetisation and Magnetic Intensity	189
5.6	Magnetic Properties of Materials	191
5.7	Permanent Magnets and Electromagnets	195
CHAPTER SIX		
ELECTROMAGNETIC INDUCTION		
6.1	Introduction	204
6.2	The Experiments of Faraday and Henry	205
6.3	Magnetic Flux	206
6.4	Faraday's Law of Induction	207
6.5	Lenz's Law and Conservation of Energy	210
6.6	Motional Electromotive Force	212
6.7	Energy Consideration: A Quantitative Study	215
6.8	Eddy Currents	218
6.9	Inductance	219
6.10	AC Generator	224
CHAPTER SEVEN		
ALTERNATING CURRENT		
7.1	Introduction	233
7.2	AC Voltage Applied to a Resistor	234
7.3	Representation of AC Current and Voltage by Rotating Vectors — Phasors	237
7.4	AC Voltage Applied to an Inductor	237
7.5	AC Voltage Applied to a Capacitor	241
7.6	AC Voltage Applied to a Series LCR Circuit	244
7.7	Power in AC Circuit: The Power Factor	252
7.8	LC Oscillations	255
7.9	Transformers	259
CHAPTER EIGHT		
ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES		
8.1	Introduction	269
8.2	Displacement Current	270
8.3	Electromagnetic Waves	274
8.4	Electromagnetic Spectrum	280
ANSWERS		288

COVER DESIGN

(Adapted from <http://nobelprize.org> and
the Nobel Prize in Physics 2006)

Different stages in the evolution of
the universe.

BACK COVER

(Adapted from <http://www.iter.org> and
<http://www.dae.gov.in>)

Cut away view of *International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)* device. The man in the bottom shows the scale.

ITER is a joint international research and development project that aims to demonstrate the scientific and technical feasibility of fusion power.

India is one of the seven full partners in the project, the others being the European Union (represented by EURATOM), Japan, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA. ITER will be constructed in Europe, at Cadarache in the South of France and will provide 500 MW of fusion power.

Fusion is the energy source of the sun and the stars. On earth, fusion research is aimed at demonstrating that this energy source can be used to produce electricity in a safe and environmentally benign way, with abundant fuel resources, to meet the needs of a growing world population.

For details of India's role, see *Nuclear India*, Vol. 39, Nov. 11-12/ May-June 2006, issue available at Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) website mentioned above.
