

MATHEMATICS

Textbook for Class IX



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

ISBN 81-7450-489-3

First Edition

February 2006 Phalguna 1927

Reprinted

October 2006 Kartika 1928

October 2007 Kartika 1929

January 2009 Magha 1930

January 2010 Pausa 1931

January 2012 Magha 1933

November 2012 Kartika 1934

PD 650T RPS

© National Council of Educational
Research and Training, 2006

₹ 110.00

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
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Cover and Illustrations
Digital Expressions

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 (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 recognize 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.

This 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 P. Sinclair of IGNOU, New Delhi 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 organizations 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 2005

Director
National Council of Educational
Research and Training

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Council gratefully acknowledges the valuable contributions of the following participants of the Textbook Review Workshop: A.K. Saxena, *Professor* (Retd.), Lucknow University, Lucknow; Sunil Bajaj, *HOD*, SCERT, Gurgaon; K.L. Arya, *Professor* (Retd.), DESM, NCERT; Vandita Kalra, *Lecturer*, Sarvodaya Kanya Vidyalaya, Vikas Puri, District Centre, New Delhi; Jagdish Singh, *PGT*, Sainik School, Kapurthala; P.K. Bagga, *TGT*, S.B.V. Subhash Nagar, New Delhi; R.C. Mahana, *TGT*, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Sambalpur; D.R. Khandave, *TGT*, JNV, Dudhnoi, Goalpara; S.S. Chattopadhyay, *Assistant Master*, Bidhan Nagar Government High School, Kolkata; V.A. Sujatha, *TGT*, K.V. Vasco No. 1, Goa; Akila Sahadevan, *TGT*, K.V., Meenambakkam, Chennai; S.C. Rauto, *TGT*, Central School for Tibetans, Mussoorie; Sunil P. Xavier, *TGT*, JNV, Neriya Mangalam, Ernakulam; Amit Bajaj, *TGT*, CRPF Public School, Rohini, Delhi; R.K. Pande, *TGT*, D.M. School, RIE, Bhopal; V. Madhavi, *TGT*, Sanskriti School, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi; G. Sri Hari Babu, *TGT*, JNV, Sirpur Kagaznagar, Adilabad; and R.K. Mishra, *TGT*, A.E.C. School, Narora.

Special thanks are due to M. Chandra, *Professor* and *Head*, DESM, NCERT for her support during the development of this book.

The Council acknowledges the efforts of *Computer Incharge*, Deepak Kapoor; *D.T.P. Operator*, Naresh Kumar; *Copy Editor*, Pragati Bhardwaj; and *Proof Reader*, Yogita Sharma.

Contribution of APC–Office, administration of DESM, Publication Department and Secretariat of NCERT is also duly acknowledged.

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