

CHAPTER – 3

LINEAR EQUATION IN TWO VARIABLES

3.1 INTRODUCTION

An equation of the form $Ax + By + C = 0$ is called a linear equation.

Where A is called coefficient of x, B is called coefficient of y and C is the constant term (free from x & y) $A, B, C, \in \mathbb{R}$ [$\in \rightarrow$ belongs, to $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow$ Real No.]

But A and B can not be simultaneously zero.

If $A \neq 0, B = 0$ equation will be of the form $Ax + C = 0$. [Line || to Y-axis]

If $A = 0, B \neq 0$, equation will be of the form $By + C = 0$. [Line || to X-axis]

If $A \neq 0, B \neq 0, C = 0$ equation will be of the form $Ax + By = 0$. [Line passing through origin]

If $A \neq 0, B \neq 0, C \neq 0$ equation will be of the form $Ax + By + C = 0$.

It is called a linear equation in two variables because the two unknown (x & y) occurs only in the first power, and the product of two unknown quantities does not occur.

Since it involves two variables therefore a single equation will have infinite set of solutions i.e. indeterminate solution. So we require a pair of equations i.e. simultaneous equations.

Standard form of linear equation : (Standard form refers to all positive coefficients)

$$a_1x + b_1y + c_1 = 0 \quad \dots(i)$$

$$a_2x + b_2y + c_2 = 0 \quad \dots(ii)$$

For solving such equations we have three methods.

- (i) Elimination by substitution
- (ii) Elimination by equating the coefficients
- (iii) Elimination by cross multiplication.