

CHAPTER-15. LIGHT

MODULE:2/3

SPHERICAL MIRRORS

- Spherical mirrors are curved mirrors.
- Spherical mirrors are of two types depending upon the surface which acts as reflecting surface.

ACTIVITY: Take a stainless steel spoon. Bring the outer side of the spoon near your face and look into it.

OBSERVATION: We see our image on the surface of spoon , but this image is different from that formed by a plane mirror. Similarly inner side of the spoon also acts as a mirror but the surfaces are curved .The outer and inner surface of the spoon act as two different types of mirrors.

- Concave mirror: If the reflecting surface of a spherical mirror is concave,it is called a concave mirror.For example the inner surface of a steel spoon acts like a concave mirror.
- Convex mirror: If the reflecting surface of a spherical mirror is convex, then it is called a convex mirror. For example the outer surface of a steel spoon acts like a convex mirror.

TYPE OF IMAGE FORMED BY CONCAVE MIRROR

- The image formed by a concave mirror can be smaller , same size or larger than the object.
- The image can be real or virtual .
- The image can be erect or inverted.

NOTE:As the object is brought closer to a concave mirror , the image formed moves away from the mirror. And initially the image is real and inverted but when the object is much closer to the concave mirror , then the image is erect and virtual.

USES OF CONCAVE MIRROR

- Doctors use concave mirrors for examining eyes ,ears , nose and throat.
- Dentists use concave mirrors to see enlarged image of teeth.
- Concave mirrors are used as reflectors in torches ,headlights of cars and scooters.

TYPE OF IMAGE FORMED BY CONVEX MIRROR

- The image formed by a convex mirror is virtual.
- The image is erect.
- The convex mirror always forms image smaller than the object.

USES OF CONVEX MIRROR

- Convex mirrors are used as side mirrors in cars and scooters.
- Convex mirrors can form images of objects spread over a large area. So these mirrors help the drivers to see the traffic behind them

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