

Understanding Decimal Numbers

Chapter 3: A Peek Beyond the Point · Topic 1

Key Concept

Each place after the decimal point represents a fraction with a denominator that is a power of 10 — the first digit after the point is tenths ($\frac{1}{10}$), the second is hundredths ($\frac{1}{100}$), and so on. Understanding this place value system for decimals allows accurate reading, writing, and comparison of decimal numbers, which is essential for handling real-world quantities like prices (rupees and paise) and measurements (metres and centimetres).

Quick Revision Notes

- A decimal number has a whole part and fractional part, separated by a decimal point.
- Digits after the decimal point represent tenths, hundredths, thousandths, etc.
- Each decimal place represents a fraction with a denominator that is a power of 10.
- Decimals are essential for representing money and measurements accurately.

Practice Questions

- 1 Write 3 and 5 tenths as a decimal.
- 2 Identify the place value of each digit in 24.567.
- 3 Write the decimal 0.09 in words.