ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION OF DECIMALS

Thursday, 16th June, 2016

Objectives

- Addition and subtraction of decimals

Introduction

Decimal number is a number that has a decimal point in it. The decimal point is used to separate the whole number part from the fractional part of the number. Adding and subtracting decimals is just exactly like adding and subtracting whole numbers just that one would need to understand that the significance of the place of the decimal point.

Addition and Subtraction of Decimals

When you are given two or more decimal numbers to add or subtract, arrange them in such a way that all the decimal points form a straight line. You may decide to fill up the empty spaces with zeros (0s). Thereafter, perform normal addition or subtraction arithmetic on them.

Examples

1. Simplify 12.4 + 6.05

Solving

$$\begin{array}{rr} & 12.4 \\ + & 6.05 \\ \hline & 18.45 \end{array}$$

∴ 12.4 + 6.05 = 18.45.

2. Simplify 16 – 4.05

Solving

$$\begin{array}{rr} & 16.00 \\ - & 4.05 \\ \hline & 11.95 \end{array}$$

∴ 16 – 4.05 = 11.95.