

If eqn of parabola is  $y^2 = 4ax$  then

1) Co-ordinates of focus are  $(a, 0)$  and the eqn of directrix is  $x + a = 0$

2) Change of origin to 'S' without altering the direction of the axes then the equation of parabola becomes  $y^2 = 4a(x+a)$

3) By change of origin to 'A' without altering the direction of the axes then the equation of parabola becomes  $y^2 = 4a(x-a)$ .

4) The curve passes through origin  $(0, 0)$  and is symmetrical w.r.t.  $x$ -axis and for every value of  $x$  there are two values of 'y' with equal magnitude but opposite sign.

5) 'x' cannot be negative as  $y^2$  is always positive. Therefore the curve lies wholly on the positive side of  $y$ -axis.

# Axis - The line through the focus  $\perp$  the directrix is called the axis of parabola

# Latus Rectum - The double ordinate  $LS$ , passing through the focus and  $\perp$  to the axis of the parabola is called latus rectum.  
i.e., latus of rectum is  $LS = 2a$ .  
and length of latus rectum =  $4a$ .

# Focal radius - SP is called the focal radius to the point 'P' on the curve and  
 $SP = PM = AN = x+a$

# Focal Chord - Any chord passing through the focus is called a focal chord.

# Equation of the chord joining the points  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  on the parabola  $y^2 = 4ax$  is  
 $y(t_1 + t_2) = 2x + 2at_1t_2$ .

If the chord passes through focus  $(a, 0)$   
if  $t_1t_2 = -1$ .

Quest Find the equation to the parabola whose focus is  $(2, 3)$  and directrix is  $x - 2y - 6 = 0$ .

Soln The eqn of parabola by definition is  
 $(x - \alpha)^2 + (y - \beta)^2 = \frac{(ax + by + c)^2}{a^2 + b^2}$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 2)^2 + (y - 3)^2 = \frac{(x - 2y - 6)^2}{1^2 + (-2)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 5(x^2 + 4 - 4x + y^2 - 6y + 9) = x^2 + 4y^2 + 36 - 4xy + 12x + 24y$$

$$\Rightarrow 5x^2 + 20 - 20x + 5y^2 - 30y + 45 = x^2 + 4y^2 + 36 - 4xy - 12x + 24y$$

$$\Rightarrow 5x^2 - x^2 + 5y^2 - 4y^2 + 4xy = 20x - 12x + 30y + 24y + 36 - 45$$

$$\Rightarrow (2x + y)^2 = 54y - 2x - 29$$

Ans

Ques / If the point  $(2, 3)$  is the focus and  $x = 2y + 6$  is the directrix of a parabola then find:-

- (i) the equation of the axis
- (ii) the co-ordinates of the vertex
- (iii) length of the latus rectum
- (iv) Equation of the latus rectum.

Soln : (i) Since the axis of parabola is the line passing through the focus  $\perp$  to the directrix so the eqn of line passing through  $(2, 3)$  is

$$y - 3 = m(x - 2)$$
$$\Rightarrow mx - y = 3 - 2m$$

$\therefore$  the directrix is  $x - 2y = 6$

$$\therefore m \times \frac{1}{2} = -1 \Rightarrow m = -2$$

$\therefore$  Required eqn of axis is

$$+2x + y = 3 - 2(-2)$$

$$\Rightarrow y - 3 = 2x + 4$$

$$\Rightarrow 2x + y = 7$$

(ii) Co-ordinates of point of intersection of directrix  $x = 2y + 6$  and axis  $2x + y = 7$  are obtained by solving the equations that is  $(4, -1)$ .

$\therefore$  The vertex is middle point of points  $(4, -1)$  and focus  $(2, 3)$ . Therefore co-ordinates of vertex are  $\left(\frac{4+2}{2}, \frac{3-1}{2}\right)$   
 $= (3, 1)$

(iii) Since  $a = \sqrt{(3-2)^2 + (1-3)^2} = \sqrt{5}$

$\therefore$  the length of latus rectum  $= 4a$   
 $= 4\sqrt{5}$

(iv)  $\therefore$  the latus rectum is the line passing through the focus and parallel to directrix

$\therefore$  the eqn is  $x - 2y + C = 0$

where  $C$  is given by  $2 - 2(3) + C = 0$

$\Rightarrow C = 4.$

$\Rightarrow x - 2y + 4 = 0$  is required eqn.