

Chapter 07

REFLECTION OF LIGHT

Deepa : Jyothi look, the sky looks so beautiful with these sparkling stars.

Jyothi: Yes Deepa, the moon is bright and beautiful too. Although it is dark how are we able to see them?

Deepa: Don't you remember how?

Jyothi : Yes I remember . The stars are luminous objects because they emit light of their own. But moon? Does moon also emit light?

Jyothi: No moon is a non-luminous object; it doesn't have light of its own. We are able to see moon, because of reflection. Let us learn more about reflection.

We have seen many examples which shows that light travels in a straight path. The only way to change the direction of path of light is to make it incident on a smooth surface. This change of direction of light by a surface is called REFLECTION OF LIGHT.

How is that we are able to see objects that do not have light of their own? The light rays from the source of light, either a torch, bulb, sun candle fall on the non-luminous objects. The rays of light are reflected. The reflected light reaches our eyes. Hence we are able to see the objects.

You may also have seen the reflection of trees and building in the pond.

When an object is kept in front of the mirror, we can the image of the object in the mirror.

But will we be able to see the image in the dark? No we won't! So the formation of the image in the mirror is also due to reflection of light.

When we stand in front of the mirror, light rays from the source of light fall on our body. These rays are reflected on to the mirror. Then the rays are again reflected and reach our eyes.

In today's class we learnt about reflection of light.

We shall learn more about Reflection in mirrors in our next part.