

प्रधान मंत्री Prime Minister <u>MESSAGE</u>

I am happy to learn that the National Board for Higher Mathematics is to host the next International Congress of Mathematics (ICM) at Hyderabad. The hosting of the Congress in India will be a just recognition of the fundamental and important contributions that India has made to Mathematics and Astronomy. From Vedic times, through the work of Aryabhata, Brahmagupta, Bhaskara and the Kerala School till the more recent contributions of Ramanujan and many other distinguished mathematicians, mathematics in India has a long and rich tradition. Progress in science is vital for the economic development of our people and mathematics is the pillar on which science rests. The language of mathematics is universal and the subject thrives when great minds interact. I am sure that the ICM will be a landmark in the development of the subject and a great success.

(Manmohan Singh)

New Delhi 29 July, 2009