# **Addition and Subtraction of Decimals**

# **Understanding the Topic**

- Decimals can be added or subtracted just like whole numbers.
- But we must line up the decimal points before solving.
- If needed, add extra zeros to make like decimals (same number of digits after decimal).
- Always write the decimal point in the same place in the answer.

## **Steps to Add or Subtract Decimals**

- **Step 1:** Write the numbers one below the other with decimal points lined up.
- Step 2: Add zeros to make them like decimals (if needed).
- Step 3: Add or subtract as usual.
- Step 4: Put the decimal point in the answer directly below the others.

## **Examples with Solutions**

#### 1. Add 4.2 and 3.5

Write 4.2 + 3.5  $\rightarrow$  both have 1 digit after decimal

Add: 4.2 + 3.5 = 7.7

**Answer:** 7.7

## 2. Add 2.35 and 6.5

Make like decimals: 6.5 = 6.50

Add: 2.35 + 6.50 = 8.85

**Answer:** 8.85

#### 3. Subtract 7.8 – 3.4

Both have 1 digit after decimal

Subtract: 7.8 - 3.4 = 4.4

**Answer:** 4.4

### 4. Subtract 9.25 – 4.8

Make like decimals: 4.8 = 4.80

Subtract: 9.25 – 4.80 = 4.45

**Answer:** 4.45

5. Add 1.75, 2.6 and 3.80

Make like decimals: 2.6 = 2.60

Add: 1.75 + 2.60 + 3.80 = 8.15

**Answer:** 8.15

## **Summary Points**

- Line up decimal points before adding or subtracting.
- Add zeros to make like decimals if needed.
- Add or subtract as with whole numbers.
- Place decimal point in the correct position in the answer.
- **Example:** 5.60 + 2.4 = 8.00.