

2008 6.

- (a) A particle of mass 5 kg is suspended from a fixed point by a light elastic string which hangs vertically. The elastic constant of the string is 500 N/m. The mass is pulled down a vertical distance of 20 cm from the equilibrium position and is then released from rest.

- (i) Show that the particle moves with simple harmonic motion.  
 (ii) Find the speed and acceleration of the mass 0.1 seconds after it is released from rest.

(i) Equilibrium position :

$$T_0 = kd \quad \text{and} \quad T_0 = 5g$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{5g}{k} = \frac{5g}{500} \text{ or } \frac{g}{100}$$

Displaced position :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Force in dirn. of } x \text{ inc.} &= 5g - 500(d + x) \\ &= 5g - 5g - 500x \\ &= -500x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Acceleration} = -\frac{500x}{5} = -100x$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{S.H.M. about } x = 0 \text{ with } \omega = 10$$

(ii) amplitude = 0.2

$$\begin{aligned} x &= a \cos \omega t \\ &= 0.2 \cos 1 = 0.10806 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} v &= \omega \sqrt{a^2 - x^2} \\ &= 10 \sqrt{0.2^2 - 0.10806^2} \\ &= 1.68 \text{ m/s} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{acceleration} &= \omega^2 x \\ &= 100(0.10806) \\ &= 10.8 \text{ m/s}^2 \end{aligned}$$

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