physics helpline

Learn basic concepts of physics through problem solving

Q- A wheel starting from rest with uniform angular acceleration makes 3 revolutions in 8 s

- (a) What is the angular acceleration of the wheel?
- (b) What is its angular velocity at t = 8 s?
- (c) What is the linear speed of a particle at distance 0.50 m from the axis of rotation?

The equations for rotational motion with uniform angular acceleration of a body are the same as that for the linear motion with uniform acceleration; only we have to substitute the corresponding quantities. Let the initial angular velocity of the body is w_0 and its angular acceleration is a then its final angular velocity w and the angular displacement q at time t are related as

 $\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t \qquad ----- (1) \qquad \text{same as} \qquad \mathsf{v} = \mathsf{u} + \mathsf{at}$ $\theta = \omega_0 t + \frac{1}{2} \alpha t^2 \qquad ----- (2) \qquad \text{same as} \qquad \mathsf{s} = \mathsf{ut} + (1/2) \mathsf{at}^2$ And $\omega^2 = \omega_0^2 + 2\alpha \theta \qquad ----- (3) \qquad \text{same as} \qquad \mathsf{v}^2 = \mathsf{u}^2 + 2\mathsf{as}$

According to the question the wheel starting from rest makes 3 revolutions in 8 s hence

 $w_0 = 0;$ t = 8 s; and $\theta = 3*2\pi$ radians

(a) Using second equation of rotational motion we get

$$\theta = \omega_0 t + \frac{1}{2}\alpha t$$

Or
$$6\pi = 0*8 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha$$

- Or $\alpha = \frac{3\pi}{16} = 0.589 \text{ rad/s}^2$
- (b) Using first equation we get

$$\omega = \omega_0 + \alpha t$$

Or
$$\omega = 0 + 0.589 * 8 = 4.712 \text{ rad/s}$$

(c) the linear speed of a particle at distance R from the axis of rotation is given by