

Let $a > 0$, $b > 0$, $c > 0$ and find the minimum value of $\frac{b+c}{a} + \frac{a+c}{b} + \frac{a+b}{c}$

SOLUTION :

$$\left(\frac{b+c}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{c+a}{b}\right) + \left(\frac{a+b}{c}\right)$$

We can't apply AM, GM or AM, HM or GM, HM inequalities directly, so, we need to manipulate the given expression a bit

Now add and subtract 1 to each term

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\frac{b+c}{a} + 1\right) + \left(\frac{c+a}{b} + 1\right) + \left(\frac{a+b}{c} + 1\right) - 3 \\ &\left(\frac{a+b+c}{a}\right) + \left(\frac{a+b+c}{b}\right) + \left(\frac{a+b+c}{c}\right) - 3 \\ &(a+b+c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) - 3 \end{aligned}$$

We can't use AM, GM inequality to the above given expression so

Now apply $AM \geq HM$ for a, b, c

We know that,

$$AM \geq HM$$
$$\frac{a+b+c}{3} \geq \frac{3}{\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}}$$
$$\Rightarrow (a+b+c) \left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c}\right) \geq 9$$

So , the minimum value will be

$$9 - 3 = 6$$