

**Question: -**

The set of all real numbers  $a$  such that  $a^2 + 2a$ ,  $2a + 3$  and  $a^2 + 3a + 8$  are the sides of a triangle is .....

(1985, 2M)

**Solution: -**

Since,  $a^2 + 2a$ ,  $2a + 3$  and  $a^2 + 3a + 8$  form sides of a triangle.

$$\text{Now, } a^2 + 3a + 8 < (a^2 + 2a) + (2a + 3)$$

$$\Rightarrow a^2 + 3a + 8 < a^2 + 4a + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow a > 5 \quad \dots(\text{i})$$

$$\text{Also, } (a^2 + 3a + 8) + (2a + 3) > a^2 + 2a$$

$$\Rightarrow 3a > -11$$

$$\Rightarrow a > -\frac{11}{3} \quad \dots(\text{ii})$$

$$\text{Again, } (a^2 + 3a + 8) + (a^2 + 2a) > 2a + 3$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a^2 + 3a + 5 > 0$$

which is always true.

$\therefore$  Triangle is formed, if  $a > 5$