CLAIMS

1. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member for transmitting a driving force in said cartridge, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a movable member movable relative to said photosensitive drum to control an inclination angle of the drive transmission member, said movable member being movable between (a) a first position for reducing the inclination angle of said drive transmission member relative to said photosensitive drum and (b) a second position retracted from the first position.

2. A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said cartridge includes a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum by engagement with an output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member.

3. A cartridge according to Claim 2, wherein said movable member reduces the inclination angle of the drive transmission member to bring a center of the output coupling portion of the drive transmission member closer to a center of said coupling.

4. A cartridge according to Claim 2 or 3, wherein said coupling member is movable between a retracted position retracted to an inside of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum.

5. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 4, wherein said cartridge further comprises a gear member for receiving the driving force by engagement with an output gear portion provided on the drive transmission member.

6. A cartridge according to Claim 5, wherein said movable member is configured to reduce an inclination angle of said drive transmission member to enable the output gear portion of the drive transmission member to engage with said gear member of said cartridge when said movable member in the first position.

7. A cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein said cartridge includes a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum, and a gear member for receiving a driving force through engagement with the output gear portion provided on said drive transmission member, to receive the driving force for rotating the photosensitive drum through engagement with the output coupling portion provided on said drive transmission member.

8. A cartridge according to Claim 7, wherein at least one portion of said gear member is outside said coupling member in an axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

9. A cartridge according to Claim 7 or 8, wherein said gear member is configured to produce a force effective to bring the drive transmission member closer to said coupling member wherein receiving the driving force from said output gear portion.

10. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 5 - 9, wherein said gear

member is a helical gear.

11. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 5 - 10, further comprising a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum, wherein said gear member is configured to receive a driving force for rotating said developing roller.

12. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 11, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said movable member.

13. A cartridge according to Claim 12, wherein said operating member is configured to receive a force from an opening/closing member provided in the main assembly of the image forming apparatus as said opening/closing member is closed.

14. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 13, further comprising a sandwiching portion contactable with the drive transmission member, wherein said sandwiching portion is configured to reduce the inclination angle of the drive transmission member by sandwiching the drive transmission member between said movable member and said sandwiching portion when said movable member is in the first position.

15. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 14, wherein said movable member includes an acting portion actable on said drive transmission member when said movable member is in the first position.

16. A cartridge according to Claim 15, wherein said acting portion is an

urging portion for urging said drive transmission member.

17. A cartridge according to Claim 15 or 16, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, a distance from said acting portion to an axis of said photosensitive drum is larger when said movable member is in the second position than when it is in the first position.

18. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 15 - 17, wherein as viewed along an axis of said photosensitive drum, said acting portion is adjacent to an outer peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum (a) when said movable member is in the first position, and said acting portion is more away from the axis of said photosensitive drum (b) when said movable member is in the second position than when said movable member is in the first position.

19. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 15 - 18, further comprising a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive the driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum through engagement with the output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, and at least a part of said acting portion is outside of said coupling member in an axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

20. A cartridge according to Claim 19, wherein said movable member is capable of said acting portion bring more toward the axis of said photosensitive drum than when said movable member is in the first position.

21. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 20, wherein said

movable member is swingable.

22. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 20, wherein said movable member is slidably supported.

23. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 21, wherein said movable member includes a guide portion for being guided by a main assembly side guide portion provided in the main assembly of the image forming apparatus.

24. A cartridge according to Claim 23, wherein said guide portion of said movable member projects outwardly in the axial direction.

25. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 24, further comprising an elastic member for urging said movable member.

26. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 25, wherein said movable member is urged from the second position toward the first position.

27. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 26, further comprising a stop portion for stopping movement of said movable member in the first position.

28. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 25, wherein said movable member is urged from the first position toward the second position.

29. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 16, wherein said movable member is rotatable around an axis of said photosensitive drum.

30. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 16 and 29, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said movable member is adjacent to a peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum, and said acting portion is configured to move along the peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum.

31. A cartridge according to Claim 29 or 30, wherein at least a part of said movable member projects out in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

32. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 16, wherein said movable member is adjacent to said coupling member and is movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said cartridge and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said cartridge.

33. A cartridge according to Claim 32, wherein said movable member is provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum.

34. A cartridge according to Claim 32 or 33, wherein said coupling member is movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum, and wherein said coupling member is configured to be movable from the retracted position to the advanced position after said movable member moves from the retracted position to the advanced position.

35. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 32 - 34, wherein said movable member includes an inclined portion for urging said drive transmission member, wherein said inclined portion is inclined so as to reduce the inclination

angle of said drive transmission member by contacting the drive transmission member.

36. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum; and

a movable member having a portion, a distance of which from an axis of said photosensitive drum is changeable, said movable member being movable between (a) a first position in which said portion of said movable member is adjacent to an outer peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum and (b) a second position in which said portion of said movable member is more remote from the axis of said photosensitive drum than when said movable member is in the first position, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum,

wherein when said movable member is in the first position, said portion of said movable member is outside of a free end of said coupling member in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

37. A cartridge according to Claim 36, said cartridge further comprising a gear member which is at least partly uncovered to receive a driving force from an outside of said cartridge, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, said portion of said movable member is faced to an uncovered portion of said gear member with said photosensitive drum interposed therebetween, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and wherein said movable member is configured such that said portion of said movable member is moved away from the uncovered portion of said gear member with movement of said

movable member from the first position to the second position.

38. A cartridge according to Claim 37, wherein said gear member is a helical gear.

39. A cartridge according to Claim 37 or 38, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, at least a part of said uncovered portion of said gear member is adjacent a peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum.

40. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 37 - 39, wherein at least a part of said uncovered portion of said gear member is outside of said coupling member in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

41. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 37 - 40, further comprising a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum, wherein said gear member is configured to receive a driving force for rotating said developing roller.

42. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 41, wherein said coupling member is fixed to an end portion of said photosensitive drum.

43. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 41, wherein said coupling member is movable relative to said photosensitive drum.

44. A cartridge according to Claim 43, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member, wherein by application of an external force to said operating member, wherein said coupling

member is moved from (a) a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum to (b) an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum, and wherein when the external force is not applied to said operating member and said movable member moves to the first position with said coupling member in the retracted position, said portion of said movable member is outside an end portion of said coupling member in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

45. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a gear member at least a part of which is uncovered to receive a driving force from an outside of said cartridge; and

a movable member provided on the same side of said cartridge as said gear member in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum, said movable member having a portion a distance of which from the axis of said photosensitive drum is changeable, wherein as seen along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said movable member is movable between (a) a first position in which said portion of said movable member is adjacent to an outer peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum and (b) a second position in which said portion of said movable member is more remote from the axis of said photosensitive drum than when said movable member is in the first position, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum,

wherein when said movable member is in the first position, said portion of said movable member faces an uncovered portion of said gear member with said photosensitive drum interposed therebetween,

wherein said movable member is configured such that said portion of said

movable member is moved away from said uncovered portion of said gear member with movement of said movable member from the first position to the second position.

46. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum, and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum; and

a movable member having a portion a distance of which from an axis of said photosensitive drum is changeable, said movable member being movable between (a) a first position in which said portion of said movable member is adjacent to an outer peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum and (b) a second position in which said portion of said movable member is more remote from the axis of said photosensitive drum than when said movable member is in the first position, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and

when said movable member is in the first position and said coupling member is in the retracted position, said portion of said movable member is outside of a free end of said coupling member in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

47. A cartridge according to Claim 46, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member.

48. A cartridge according to Claim 47, wherein said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, is viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and one end of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

49. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 48, wherein said movable member is a lever.

50. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 49, wherein said movable member is movable along a direction perpendicular to the axis of said photosensitive drum.

51. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 49, wherein said movable member is movable toward an inside of said photosensitive drum in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum by moving from the first position to the second position.

52. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 51, wherein said movable member is swingable.

53. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 52, wherein said movable member includes a first end portion swingably connected to said frame, a second end portion which is provided opposite from said first end portion and which has said portion of said movable member, and a middle portion connecting said first end portion and said second end portion with each other, wherein said middle portion includes a small width portion having a width smaller than that of adjacent portion thereof.

54. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 52, wherein said movable member includes a first end portion swingably connected to said frame, a second end portion which is provided opposed from said first end portion and which has said portion of said movable member, and a mule portion connecting said first end portion and said second portion with each other, wherein said middle portion is provided with a recess recessed away from the axis of said photosensitive drum when said movable member is in the first position.

55. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 54, wherein a pressure angle of said portion of said movable member is not more than 60 degrees.

56. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 51, wherein said movable member is slidably supported.

57. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 56, wherein said movable member is provided with a projection projecting outwardly in the axial direction.

58. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 57, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, a circumference of said coupling member is uncovered.

59. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 58, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, said movable member is positioned so as not to cover an uncovered portion of said photosensitive drum.

60. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 59, wherein said movable member is disposed at a position adjacent to an end portion of the frame of said cartridge in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

61. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 60, further comprising an elastic member for urging said movable member.

62. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 61, wherein said movable member is urged from the second position toward the first position.

63. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 62, further comprising a stop portion for stopping movement of said movable member in the first position.

64. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 63, wherein when said stop portion stops movement of said movable member, a distance from said portion of said movable member to the axis of said photosensitive drum is larger than a radius of said photosensitive drum.

65. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 63, wherein said movable member is movable from the first position such that said portion of said movable member is closer to the axis of said photosensitive drum than in the first position.

66. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 61, wherein said movable member is urged from the first position toward the second position.

67. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 66, further comprising a

charging member for electrically charging said photosensitive drum, an opposing portion provided opposing said portion of said movable member with said photosensitive drum interposed therebetween is viewed along the axial direction of said photosensitive drum when said movable member is in the first position, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, a tangent line of said portion of said movable member extending away from said charging member and a tangent line of said opposing portion extending away from said charging member intersect with each other at an angle exceeding 25 degrees.

68. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 67, wherein said portion of said movable member is a portion of a surface of said movable member.

69. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 68, wherein when said movable member is in the first position, said portion of said movable member faces a side where said photosensitive drum is disposed, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum.

70. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 69, wherein said movable member is capable of reducing a distance from said portion of said movable member to the axis of said photosensitive drum to be smaller than 1.2 - times of a radius of said photosensitive drum.

71. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 70, wherein when said movable member is in the second position, a distance from said portion of said movable member to the axis of said photosensitive drum is larger than 1.25 -

times of a radius of said photosensitive drum.

72. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 71, wherein when said movable member is in the second position, a distance from said portion of said movable member to the axis of said photosensitive drum is larger than 1.25 - times of a radius of said photosensitive drum.

73. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 72, wherein said coupling member is configured to receive a driving force from a drive transmission member provided in a main assembly of the image forming apparatus, wherein said third portion of said movable member is actable on said drive transmission member.

74. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 36 - 73, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said movable member.

75. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum; and

a movable member provided adjacent to a peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum and movable along the peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum, as viewed along an axis of said photosensitive drum,

wherein at least a part of said movable member is disposed outside than a free end of said coupling member in an axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

76. A cartridge according to Claim 75, wherein said coupling member fixed to an end portion of said photosensitive drum.

77. A cartridge according to Claim 75, wherein said coupling member is movable relative to said photosensitive drum.

78. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a movable member provided adjacent to a peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum and movable along the peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum, as viewed along an axis of said photosensitive member.

wherein at least a part of said movable member is projected outwardly in an axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

79. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 75 - 78, wherein a cartridge according to any one of Claims 75 - 78, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said movable member.

80. A cartridge according to Claim 79, wherein said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, is viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and one end of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

81. A cartridge according to Claim 79 or 80, wherein said movable member is configured to move upstream in a rotational moving direction of photosensitive

drum by said operating member receiving an external force.

82. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 79 - 81, wherein said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, is viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and an end of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

83. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 75 - 82, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said movable member is movable in a range exceeding 30 degrees about the axis of said photosensitive drum.

84. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 75 - 83, wherein said movable member is movable along a direction perpendicular to the axis of said photosensitive drum.

85. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 75 - 84, wherein a distance from said movable member to the axis of said photosensitive drum is larger than a radius of said photosensitive drum.

86. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 75 - 85, further comprising a gear member at least a part of which is uncovered to receive a driving force.

87. A cartridge according to Claim 86, wherein at least a part of the uncovered portion of said gear member is adjacent to a peripheral surface of said photosensitive drum, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum.

88. A cartridge according to Claim 86 or 87, wherein at least a part of the

uncovered portion of said gear is disposed outside said coupling member in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

89. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 86 - 88, wherein said gear member and said movable member are disposed on the same side of said cartridge the axial direction of said photosensitive drum, and said movable member is movable to a position opposing said gear member with said photosensitive drum interposed therebetween, as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum.

90. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided on an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a rotational force for rotating said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced to outwardly of said photosensitive drum; and

a movable member which is provided adjacent to said coupling member and which is movable relative to said coupling member between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said cartridge and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said cartridge.

91. A cartridge according to Claim 90, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member.

92. A cartridge according to Claim 90, further comprising an operating

member configured to be operated to move said movable member.

93. A cartridge according to Claim 91 or 92, wherein said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, is viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and an end of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

94. A cartridge according to Claim 90, further comprising a first operating member configured to be operated to move said movable member and a second configured to be operated to move said movable member.

95. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 90 - 94, wherein said coupling member is movable from the retracted position to the advanced position after said movable member moves from the retracted position to the advanced position.

96. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided on an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum;

a movable member which is provided adjacent to said coupling member and which is movable relative to said photosensitive drum and said coupling member between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced inwardly of said photosensitive member; and

an operating member configured to be operated to move said movable

member.

97. A cartridge according to Claim 96, wherein as viewed along an axial direction of said photosensitive drum, said operating member (a) extends away from said photosensitive drum and (b) an end portion of said operating member projects from said cartridge.

98. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 90 - 97, wherein said movable member is provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum.

99. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 90 - 98, wherein said coupling member and said movable member are configured to rotate when said coupling member receives the driving force.

100. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 90 - 99, wherein said movable member is provided with an inclined portion facing outwardly in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

101. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 90 - 100, wherein said coupling member includes an input portion for receiving the driving force, wherein at least a part of drive inputting portion is outside said movable member in a radial direction of said photosensitive drum.

102. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 90 - 101, wherein said coupling member includes an input portion for receiving the driving force, wherein at least a part of said movable member is outside said input portion in a radial direction of said photosensitive drum.

103. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum from an output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member,

wherein said coupling member has a portion movable relative to said photosensitive drum, and an inclination angle of said drive transmission member is reduced by movement of said part of said coupling member.

104. A cartridge according to Claim 103, wherein said coupling member is provided with an acting portion applying the force to the drive transmission member to reduce the inclination angle of the drive transmission member.

105. A cartridge according to Claim 103 or 104, wherein said coupling member is movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum, and said coupling member is configured to apply the force to the drive transmission member (a) so as to reduce the inclination angle of the drive transmission member and (b) so as to engage with the drive transmission member.

106. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 103 - 105, wherein said coupling member is provided with an inclined portion for urging said drive transmission member, wherein said inclined portion is inclined so as to reduce the

inclination angle of the drive transmission member when said inclined portion contacts the drive transmission member.

107. A cartridge according to Claim 105 or 106, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member.

108. A cartridge according to Claim 107, wherein said operating member is configured to receive an urging force from said opening/closing member provided on the main assembly of the image forming apparatus, by closing said opening/closing member.

109. A cartridge according to Claim 107 or 108, further comprising an electrical contact for electrical connection with a main assembly side contact provided in the main assembly of the image forming apparatus, wherein said operating member is movable from (a) a first position for placing said coupling member in the retracted position to (b) a second position for placing said coupling member in the adverse position, by receiving the urging force from the main assembly of said image forming apparatus, and said electrical contact is urged to the main assembly side contact by said operating member receiving the urging force.

110. A cartridge according to Claim 109, further comprising a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum, and said electrical contact is electrically connected with said developing roller.

111. A cartridge according to Claim 109, further comprising a charging member for electrically charging said photosensitive drum, and a wherein said

electrical contact is electrically connected with said charging member.

112. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 107 - 111, wherein said operating member and said electrical contact are disposed on one side of said cartridge in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

113. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 107 - 112, wherein said operating member, said electrical contact and said coupling member are disposed on one side of said cartridge.

114. A cartridge according to Claim 107 or 108, further comprising a first electrical contact and a second electrical contact as electrical contacts, said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact being electrically connectable with a first main assembly side contact and a second main assembly side contact, respectively, wherein said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact are urged toward said first main assembly side contact and said second main assembly side contact, respectively, by said operating member receiving the urging force.

115. A cartridge according to Claim 114, further comprising a charging member for electrically charging said photosensitive drum, a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum, wherein said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact are electrically connected with said charging member and said developing roller, respectively.

116. A cartridge according to Claim 114 or 115, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum a line segment connecting opposite ends of

said operating member in a moving direction of said operating member with each other crosses with a line segment connecting said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact with each other.

117. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 107 - 116, further comprising an operation unit including said operating member and configured to move said coupling member with movement of said operating member.

118. A cartridge according to Claim 117, wherein said operation unit includes said operating member, an urging portion for urging said operating member toward the first position, and a cam mechanism for interrelating said operating member and said coupling member with each other.

119. A cartridge according to Claim 117 or 118, further comprising an electrical contact configured to electrically connect with the main assembly side contact provided in the main assembly of the image forming apparatus, wherein said electrical contact is electrically connected with said photosensitive drum through at least a part of said operation unit.

120. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 117 - 119, wherein said coupling member is disposed on one side of said cartridge, and said operating member and said electrical contact are disposed the other side of said cartridge opposite from said one side.

121. A cartridge according to Claim 120, wherein said operation unit includes an extending member extending in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum to transmit movement of said operating member to said

coupling member.

122. A cartridge according to Claim 121, wherein said extending member is disposed inside said photosensitive drum.

123. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 107 - 122, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, and an end portion of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

124. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 105 - 123, further comprising a flange member mounted to an end portion of said photosensitive drum, wherein said coupling member is movably connected with said flange member.

125. A cartridge according to Claim 103 or 104, wherein said coupling member includes a plurality of input portions for receiving the driving force, and said coupling member is configured so that by movement of said input portions to bring free end portions of said input portions away from the axis of said coupling member, said coupling member (a) applies a force to the drive transmission member to reduce the inclination angle of said drive transmission member and (b) causes said input portions to engage with said output coupling portion.

126. A cartridge according to Claim 125, wherein a size of a diameter of a circumscribed circle of free end portions of said input portions changes by the movement of said input portions.

127. A cartridge according to Claim 125 or 126, further comprising an operating member operable to move said input portions to bring each of said free end portions away from said coupling member.

128. A cartridge according to Claim 127, wherein said operating member is operated by the opening/closing member provided on the main assembly of the image forming apparatus when the opening/closing member is closed.

129. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 125 - 128, wherein said coupling member is movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum.

130. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 125 - 129, wherein said coupling member is configured so that with movement of the coupling member from the retracted position to the advanced position, the free end portion of each of said input portions is away from the axis of said coupling member.

131. A cartridge according to Claim 129 or 130, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the retracted position and the advanced position.

132. A cartridge according to Claim 131, wherein said operating member is configured to be operated so that (a) said coupling member moves from the retracted position to the advanced position and (b) the input portions move to move the free end portion of said input portions away from the axis of said coupling member.

133. A cartridge according to Claim 103 or 104, wherein said coupling member includes a plurality of input portions for receiving the driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, and wherein each of said input portions are movable relative to said photosensitive drum and is configured such that when the drive transmission member rotates, said input portions sequentially engage with said output coupling portions by movement of each of said input portions, and by increasing the number of said input portions having engaged with said output coupling portion, the inclination angle of the drive transmission member is reduced.

134. A cartridge according to Claim 133, wherein input portions are movable independently of each other.

135. A cartridge according to Claim 133 or 134, wherein said coupling member is movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum.

136. A cartridge according to Claim 135, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

137. A cartridge according to Claim 136, wherein said operating member is operated by the opening/closing member provided on the main assembly of the image forming apparatus when the opening/closing member is closed.

138. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 135 - 137, wherein said coupling member is provided with a supporting portion supported in a plurality of input portions, said input portions being movable relative to said supporting portion by movement of said supporting portion to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

139. A cartridge according to Claim 138, wherein said supporting portion is movable along the axis of said photosensitive drum.

140. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 133 - 138, wherein said coupling member is provided with a plurality of urging portions, said urging portions urging respective input portions.

141. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 133 - 140, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and said input portions are arranged to define a triangular shape.

142. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at the end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force For rotating said photosensitive drum from an output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member, said coupling member and being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said cartridge and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said cartridge,

wherein by movement of said coupling member from the retracted position

to the advanced position, (a) said coupling member applies a force to the drive transmission member to reduce an inclination angle of the drive transmission member and (b) said coupling member is engaged with the output coupling portion.

143. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum and including a plurality of input portions for receiving a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum from an output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member,

wherein said coupling member is configured to move said input portions so that a free end portion of each of said input portions is away from the axis of said coupling member (a) to apply a force to the drive transmission member so that an inclination angle of the drive transmission member is reduced and (b) to bring said input portions into engagement with the output coupling portion.

144. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum and including a plurality of input portions for receiving a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum from an output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member,

wherein when the drive transmission member rotates in an inclined state, said input portions sequentially engage with said output coupling portions, and by increasing the number of said input portions having engaged with said output coupling portion, the inclination angle of the drive transmission member is reduced.

145. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 103 - 144, further comprising a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum.

146. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum;

an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member, wherein by receiving an urging force from an outside of said cartridge, said operating member is movable from (a) a first position for placing said coupling member in the retracted position to (b) a second position for placing said coupling member in the advanced position; and

an electrical contact for electrically connecting with an outside of said cartridge,

wherein said operating member and said electrical contact are disposed on one side of said cartridge in an axial direction of said photosensitive drum, and

said electrical contact is disposed on a downstream side in a moving direction of said operating member from the first position to the second position.

147. A cartridge according to Claim 146, wherein said operating member, said electrical contact and said coupling member are disposed on said one side of said cartridge.

148. A cartridge according to Claim 146, further comprising a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum, and said electrical contact is electrically connected with said developing roller.

149. A cartridge according to Claim 146, further comprising a charging member for electrically charging said photosensitive drum, and a wherein said electrical contact is electrically connected with said charging member.

150. A cartridge according to Claim 146, wherein said cartridge includes a first electrical contact and a second electrical contact as said electrical contact, and said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact are disposed on said one side of said cartridge and are faced toward downstream in the moving direction.

151. A cartridge according to Claim 150, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, a line segment connecting opposite end portions of said operating member in the moving direction of said operating member crosses with a line segment connecting the first electrical contact and the second electrical contact with each other.

152. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum;

an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member, wherein by receiving an urging force from an outside of said cartridge, said operating member is movable from (a) a first position for placing said coupling member in the retracted position to (b) a second position for placing said coupling member in the advanced position; and

a first electrical contact and a second electrical contact electrically connectable portions outside said cartridge, respectively,

wherein when said operating member is in the first position, a line segment connecting opposite ends of said photosensitive drum with each other crosses with a line segment connecting said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact with each other, as viewed along an axis of said photosensitive drum.

153. A cartridge according to Claim 152, further comprising a charging member for electrically charging said photosensitive drum, a developing roller for developing a latent image formed on said photosensitive drum, wherein said first electrical contact and said second electrical contact are electrically connected with said charging member and said developing roller, respectively.

154. A cartridge according to Claim 152 or 153, wherein said first electrical contact, said second electrical contact, said operating member and said coupling member are disposed on one side of said cartridge in an axial direction of said photosensitive drum.

155. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum;

an operation unit including an operating member movable between a first position and a second position, wherein when said operating member is in the first position, said operating unit places said coupling member in the retracted position, and when said operating member is in the second position, said operating unit places said coupling member in the advanced position; and

an electrical contact for electrically connecting with an outside of said cartridge,

wherein said electrical contact is electrically connected with said photosensitive drum through at least a part of said operation unit.

156. A cartridge according to Claim 155, wherein said coupling member is disposed on one side of said cartridge, and said operating member and said electrical contact are disposed on an opposite side opposite from said one side.

157. A cartridge according to Claim 156, wherein said operation unit includes an extending member extending in the axial direction of said photosensitive drum to transmit movement of said operating member to said coupling member.

158. A cartridge according to Claim 157, wherein said extending member is disposed inside said photosensitive drum.

159. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 155 - 158, wherein said operation unit further includes an urging member for urging said operating member and a cam mechanism for interrelating said extending member and said coupling member with each other.

160. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 152 - 159, further comprising a flange member mounted to an end portion of said photosensitive drum, wherein said coupling member is movably connected with said flange member.

161. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 146 - 160, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, and when the and portion of said operating member is projected from a frame of said cartridge.

162. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 146 - 161, wherein said coupling member is provided with an inclined portion adjacent to a free end thereof.

163. A cartridge according to Claim 162, wherein said inclined portion is inclined so as to approaching the axis of said coupling member as goes toward the free end of said coupling member.

164. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at an end portion of said photosensitive drum and including a plurality of input portions for receiving a rotational force for rotating said photosensitive drum,

wherein said input portions are movable such that a free end portion of each of said input portions is away from said coupling member.

165. A cartridge according to Claim 164, wherein a size of a diameter of a circumscribed circle of the free end portions of said input portions changes by the movement of said input portions.

166. A cartridge according to Claim 164 or 165, further comprising an operating member operable to move said input portions to bring each of said free end portions away from said coupling member.

167. A cartridge according to Claim 166, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, and one end portion of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

168. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 164 - 167, wherein said

input portion is inclinably supported.

169. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 164 - 168, wherein said coupling member is movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum.

170. A cartridge according to Claim 169, wherein with movement of said coupling member from the retracted position to the advanced position, each of said free end portions of said input portions moves away from the axis of said coupling member.

171. A cartridge according to Claim 169 or 170, wherein said coupling member includes a supporting portion supporting said input portions, wherein by movement of said supporting portion along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said coupling member is movable between the retracted position and the advanced position.

172. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

(i) a photosensitive drum; and

(ii) a coupling member provided on an end portion of said photosensitive drum, said coupling member including (ii-i) a plurality of input portions for receiving a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum and (ii-ii) a supporting portion supporting said input portions, wherein by movement of said supporting portion, said coupling member is movable between (a) an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum and (b) a retracted

position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum,

wherein said input portions are movable relative to said supporting portion independently of each other.

173. A cartridge according to Claim 172, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

174. A cartridge according to Claim 173, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, and one end portion of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

175. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 172 - 174, wherein the driving force received by said input portions is transmitted to said photosensitive drum through said supporting portion.

176. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 172 - 175, wherein said supporting portion is movable along the axis of said photosensitive drum.

177. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 172 - 176, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and said input portions are arranged to define a triangular shape.

178. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum, said coupling member including a plurality of input portions for receiving a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, and a plurality of urging portions for urging said input portions, respectively,

wherein as viewed along an axis of said photosensitive drum, said input portions are arranged to define the triangular shape.

179. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 172 - 178, wherein said coupling member is provided with a plurality of urging portions, said urging portions urging respective input portions.

180. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum through engagement with an output coupling portion provided on said drive transmission member, said coupling member including an input portion for receiving the driving force, and an output portion for outputting the driving force toward said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive member,

wherein when said coupling member is in the advanced position, said input portion is engaged with the drive transmission member which is inclined relative to said photosensitive drum by holding said input portion so that an axis of said input portion is deviated relative to an axis of said output portion.

181. A cartridge according to Claim 180, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

182. A cartridge according to Claim 181, wherein said operating member is configured to be operated by an opening/closing member provided on the main assembly of the image forming apparatus, when said opening/closing member is closed.

183. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 182, wherein when said coupling member is in the retracted position, said input portion is held so that an axis of said input portion is deviated from an axis of said output portion.

184. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 183, wherein by movement of said output portion, said coupling member is moved between the retracted position and the advanced position.

185. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 184, wherein by movement of said output portion along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said coupling member is moved between the retracted position and the advanced position.

186. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 185, wherein said input portion is movable Relative to said output portion in a direction crossing with the axis of said photosensitive drum.

187. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 186, wherein the axis of said input portion is capable of inclining relative to the axis of said photosensitive drum.

188. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 187, wherein said input portion is inclined to approach the axis of said photosensitive drum as the axis of said input portion goes toward the free end of said coupling member when said coupling member is in the advanced position.

189. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 188, further comprising a bearing for rotatably supporting said input portion.

190. A cartridge according to Claim 189, wherein said bearing supports said input portion in a state that the axis of said input portion is inclined relative to the axis of said photosensitive drum.

191. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 190, wherein said coupling member includes a middle portion for transmitting the driving force from the input portion to the output portion, wherein when said coupling member is in the advanced position, (a) the axis of said input portion deviated from the axis of said middle portion and (b) the axis of said middle portion is deviated from the axis of said output portion.

192. A cartridge according to Claim 191, wherein said input portion is slidably engaged with said middle portion, and said middle portion is slidably engaged with said output portion.

193. A cartridge according to Claim 191, wherein said input portion is inclinably engaged with said middle portion, and said middle portion is inclinably engaged with said output portion.

194. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 193, further comprising an urging member for deviating the axis of said input portion from the axis of said output portion by urging said input portion.

195. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 180 - 194, further comprising an urging member for urging said input portion toward a crossing direction crossing with the axis of said photosensitive drum.

196. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum; and

a coupling member provided at the one end portion of said photosensitive drum and including an input portion configured to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum, an output portion configured to output the driving force toward said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said cartridge and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said cartridge,

wherein said coupling member is held so that an axis of said input portion is deviated from an axis of said output portion when said coupling member is in the advanced position.

197. A cartridge according to Claim 196, wherein said input portion is movable relative to said output portion in a direction crossing with the axis of

said photosensitive drum.

198. A cartridge according to Claim 196 or 197, wherein the axis of said input portion is inclinable relative to the axis of said output portion.

199. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 196 - 198, wherein said input portion is inclined to approach the axis of said photosensitive drum as the axis of said input portion goes toward the free end of said coupling member when said coupling member is in the advanced position.

200. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 105 - 199, further comprising a bearing for rotatably supporting said input portion.

201. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 196 - 200, wherein said bearing holds said input portion in a state in the axis of said input portion is deviated from the axis of said output portion.

202. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

(i) a photosensitive drum; and

(ii) a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum and including (ii-i) an input portion configured to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum and (ii-ii) an output portion provided coaxially with said photosensitive drum to output the driving force toward said photosensitive drum, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said cartridge and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said cartridge,

wherein said coupling member is held so that a rotational center of said input portion is away from the axis of said photosensitive drum when said coupling member is in the advanced position.

203. A cartridge according to Claim 202, further comprising a bearing rotatably supporting said input portion, said bearing holding said input portion in a state in the rotational center of said input portion is away from the axis of said photosensitive drum.

204. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 196 - 203, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

205. A cartridge according to Claim 204, wherein as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum, and one end portion of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

206. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 196 - 205, wherein said coupling member includes a middle portion for transmitting the driving force from the input portion to the output portion, wherein when said coupling member is in the advanced position, (a) the axis of said input portion deviated from the axis of said middle portion and (b) the axis of said middle portion is deviated from the axis of said output portion.

207. A cartridge according to Claim 206, wherein said input portion is slidably engaged with said middle portion, and said middle portion is slidably

engaged with said output portion.

208. A cartridge according to Claim 206, wherein said input portion is inclinably engaged with said middle portion, and said middle portion is inclinably engaged with said output portion.

209. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 196 - 203, further comprising an urging member for urging said input portion toward a crossing direction crossing with the axis of said photosensitive drum.

210. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said main assembly including an inclinable drive transmission member, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum from an output coupling portion provided on the drive transmission member, said coupling member being movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said photosensitive drum and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said photosensitive drum; and

a phase determination member for determining one of three different phases of said coupling member so as to engage with the drive transmission member which is inclined.

211. A cartridge according to Claim 210, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

212. A cartridge according to Claim 211, wherein said operating member is operated by the opening/closing member provided on the main assembly of the image forming apparatus when the opening/closing member is closed.

213. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 210 - 212, wherein said phase determination member determines the phase of said coupling member for each substantially 120 degrees rotation.

214. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 210 - 213, wherein said coupling member has a shape of substantially 120 degrees rotational symmetry, and said phase determination member operates for the symmetrical shape.

215. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 210 - 214, wherein said coupling member has a substantially triangular shape, and said phase determination member operates for the triangular shape.

216. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 210 - 215, wherein said phase determination member holds said coupling member in one of said three phases by urging said coupling member.

217. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 210 - 216, wherein said phase determination member includes an elastic member.

218. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 210 - 217, wherein said coupling member includes a projected portion for receiving the driving force from an outside of said cartridge, and said projected portion has a plurality of

apexes, and wherein when the phase of said coupling member is determined by said phase determination member, at least one of the apexes of said projected portion is in a range larger than 11 degrees and smaller than 71 degrees of an angle relative to a reference line extending from a center of said photosensitive drum, toward a center of said developing roller toward a downstream in a rotational direction of said photosensitive drum.

219. A cartridge detachably mountable to a main assembly of an image forming apparatus, said cartridge comprising:

a photosensitive drum;

a coupling member provided at one end portion of said photosensitive drum to receive a driving force for rotating said photosensitive drum and a movable between a retracted position retracted inwardly of said cartridge and an advanced position advanced outwardly of said cartridge; and

a phase determination member for determining one of three different phases of said coupling member when said coupling member is at rest.

220. A cartridge according to Claim 219, further comprising an operating member configured to be operated to move said coupling member between the advanced position and the retracted position.

221. A cartridge according to Claim 220, wherein said operating member extends away from said photosensitive drum as viewed along the axis of said photosensitive drum, and one end of said operating member projects from a frame of said cartridge.

222. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 219 - 221, wherein said

phase determination member determines the phase of said coupling member for each substantially 120 degrees rotation.

223. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 219 - 222, wherein said coupling member has a shape of substantially 120 degrees rotational symmetry, and said phase determination member operates for the symmetrical shape.

224. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 219 - 223, wherein said coupling member has a substantially triangular shape, and said phase determination member operates for the triangular shape.

225. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 219 - 224, wherein said phase determination member holds said coupling member in one of said three phases by urging said coupling member.

226. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 219 - 225, wherein said phase determination member includes an elastic member.

227. A cartridge according to any one of Claims 219 - 226, wherein said coupling member includes a protrusion for receiving the driving force from an outside of said cartridge, and said protrusion has a plurality of apexes, and wherein when the phase of said coupling member is determined by said phase determination member, at least one of the apexes of said protrusion is in a range larger than 11 degrees and smaller than 71 degrees of an angle relative to a reference line extending from a center of said photosensitive drum, toward a center of said developing roller toward a downstream in a rotational direction of said photosensitive drum.

228. An image forming apparatus comprising the main assembly including the drive transmission member for transmitting the driving force to the cartridge, and the cartridge according to any one of Claims 1 - 227.