

# NOTES

## Computer Networks

### Definition:

A computer network is defined as the interconnection of two or more computers. It is done to enable the computers to communicate and share available resources.

### Applications:

- i] Sharing of resources such as printers
- ii] Sharing of expensive software's and database
- iii] communication from one computer to another computer
- iv] Exchange of data and information among users via network
- v] Sharing of information over geographically wide areas.

\* The use of computer network  
• Business Applications  
Online buying

## NOTES

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- Home Applications  
Mail, chat
- Mobile Users  
wireless: laptops, PDA, mobile, in plane
- Social Issues

### \* Components of Computer

- Two or more computers
- Cables as links between the computers
- A network interfacing card (NIC) on each computer
- Switches
- Software called operating system (OS)

### \* Network Benefits

- The network provided to the users can be divided into two categories:
  - i] Sharing
  - ii] connectivity

### \* Sharing Resources

- Types of resources are:
  - i] Hardware: A network allows users to share many hardware devices such as

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printers, modems, fax machines, CD ROM, players, etc.

ii] Software: Sharing Software resources reduces the cost of software installation, saves space hard disk.

\* Other Benefits of Computer Networks

- Increased Speed
- Reduced cost
- Improved Security
- Centralized Software management
- Electronic mail
- flexible access

\* Disadvantages of Networks

- High cost of installation
- Requires time for administration
- failure of Server
- cable faults